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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber of Deputies on Monday M. de Freycinet submitted the new Franco-Chinese Treaty. The preamble points out that the document definitively confirms the rights of France over Annam, which will henceforth only treat with foreign Powers through the intermediary of France. The treaty contains the following provisions:—France will pacify Tonquin, expel the bands of marauders infesting the country, and will respect Chinese territory. China, on her side, will facilitate this work. China will respect the treaties between France and Annam, but it is understood that these treaties will not affect the dignity of the Chinese Empire nor infringe the present treaty. Franco-Chinese Commissioners will mark out the boundary between the territories of the two countries within a period of six months.

The Chamber of Deputies on Thursday voted unanimously and without debate a credit of 10,000f. for the funeral of the late Admiral Courbet at the Invalides.

It has not been easy to keep the ranks of the French clergy up to their normal strength for some time past, and the Republican rulers of France are evidently bent upon rendering it impossible henceforward. The bourses which enabled so many poor students to get a clerical education have been done away with, and the exemption from military service which seminarists have hitherto enjoyed has likewise been abolished. The young ecclesiastic will have to spend his three years in barracks like every one else in future, and it is very obvious that such an experience will not tend to confirm wavering neophytes. Nor is the State done with him then even. He will have to turn out for his annual month's drill until he has completed his period of service in the reserve. Bishop Freppel made an unsuccessful attempt last week to exempt parish priests from this objectionable and unreasonable *corvée*. His amendment was defeated by an overwhelming majority; and French Catholics are destined to witness at no distant date the strange spectacle of their curé doffing his *soutane* periodically and marching out of his parish in full uniform to his regiment.

The Municipal Council has not adopted *in toto* the absurd proposal for rebaptising the names of half the streets of Paris. But every name recalling a priest, a monk, or a Frère Chrétien, is to be banished. The names of Archbishop Darboy and the Abbé Deguerry disappear, of course; while that of Danton is suspended *in terrorem* over the heads of the aristocrats and legitimists of the old Rue St. Dominique. Delescluze and Blanqui are to be lifted up to a probably short-lived immortality, in their respective corners. The elder Bonaparte will disappear from history, the Municipal Council hopes, with the disappearance of his street, to be called henceforth Rue de Luxembourg. Napoleon III., having nothing left to take away from him, is punished in the person of one of his first lieutenants, Baron Haussmann, whose Boulevard, which may almost be said to be the work of his own hands, it is proposed to re-name Boulevard de la Convention. Even the old time-honoured Rue Royale is not to be spared, but is to become Rue de la Concorde. There is hope that the Prefect of the Seine and the President, one or both of whom claim a veto on the subject, will not so far bow to the Municipal Council as to sanction all its eccentricities and hatred.

AMERICA.—The *New York Herald* says the contest over the right of the coloured clergymen to seats in the Convention of South Carolina has been renewed:—

"The question came up on a resolution to strike from the list of clerical delegates the names of H. C. Bishop and T. G. Harper, and to appoint a committee of two clergymen and three laymen to report at the next Convention as to their eligibility under the constitution. These resolutions were afterwards amended so as to require the committee to report to the next Convention whether or not any other than white delegates have a legal and constitutional right to membership in the diocese and Convention of South Carolina. Mr. Bishop is assistant-minister of St. Mark's coloured Episcopal Church in Charleston, and is a well-educated and efficient minister. He is a graduate of the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York, and was ordained to priestly orders by Bishop Potter, of New York. Mr. Harper is assistant-minister of St. Luke's coloured church in Columbia. He is a native of London, is a graduate of London University, a student of Leipzig University, and has been a naval cadet in the service of Great Britain. He was ordained by Bishop Stevens, in Philadelphia, in 1884, and is a clergyman of rare gifts and special endowments. The movement against coloured clergymen has been chiefly engineered by the lay members of the Convention. Bishop Howe strongly supports the rights of the coloured clergy; Mr. J. J. Pringle Smith, of Charleston, and those who go with him, contend that under the constitution of the diocese none but men of the white race, either clerical or lay, are entitled to seats in the Convention."

After a protracted discussion the negro clergymen were allowed to retain their seats.

Last week General Grant was taken from New York to a cottage 1,200ft. above the sea at Mount M'Gregor, twelve miles north of Saratoga, at the southern edge of the Adirondack region. The recent sultry weather has been very oppressive to the General, and the day of his journey was one of the hottest. The result was a serious relapse on Wednesday. His voice has lately failed, and he wrote two notes of instruction to his family and physicians. His family in alarm summoned their surgeon from New York. He has since rallied somewhat and on Friday recovered his voice, the swelling in the throat having diminished, and the change of air beginning to benefit him. He appeared on the cottage piazza and was photographed with the members of his family surrounding him. The doctors think that death will eventually supervene from failure of the heart. On Monday the General was again able to work on his book.

Mr. James Russell Lowell arrived at Boston on Saturday in excellent health. The *Daily News* correspondent says that he talked freely concerning English politics:—"Lord Salisbury, he said, is an able leader, but there is much trouble ahead of him. The Conservatives will find if they take office they must largely pattern their Irish policy after Mr. Gladstone's, which gave the Irish more than justice demanded. The Irish have vastly more advantages than the Scottish or English farmers. The Irish question will be settled peaceably. They are human like the English. About one-fourth are thoroughly loyal to the Government, and a much larger proportion would like to be, but are overawed by some of their leaders. The Irish are a peculiar people. They talk for the sake of talking, paying little attention to what they are saying, or stopping to consider its effect. 'I believe Mr. Parnell to be earnest and sincere in his efforts on behalf of his countrymen,' continued Mr. Lowell; 'but many others are not so. I do not see how any other policy can be adopted towards Ireland. She can never be separated from England. The natural location of the two countries forbids it. There was much talk about annexing Ireland to the United States; but the absurdity of that appears on the face of it. Lord Salisbury is of the war party, but he will be obliged to carry out Mr. Gladstone's Russian policy. He will be very careful, now the responsibility is on his shoulders, how he involves the whole Continent of Europe in war, for that is what a declaration of war between England and Russia would mean. I have never thought there would be war. Much was said about the effect of war on American trade, but it would not be so advantageous as was supposed.' Concerning his personal relations with the British Government, Mr. Lowell said:—'I could not have been more pleasantly situated. Had it not been for the change in my family relations I should probably have stayed in England. There is nothing but English blood in my veins, and I often remarked that I was just as much English as they. I am glad to get home, yet it hardly seems like home,' he said sadly, in conclusion."

RUSSIA.—The *Times* correspondent writes from Odessa, June 14:—"Lately some Jews were tried at Liutseen, government of Vitebsk, upon a trumped-up charge of having killed a Russian Christian girl named Dritch. But the falseness of the accusation was so transparent that, although the jury was Christian, it was impossible for it to do otherwise than to unanimously acquit the prisoners. In consequence of this a leading article appeared in a Moscow newspaper, called the *Golos* (Voice) of Moscow, impugning the fairness of the jury, and charging it with having brought in a verdict of acquittal because it feared rough treatment at the hands of the Jews. In answer to this has just appeared the following letter—a rare act of courage and justice in Russia—in the *Novostee* (News) and *Exchange Gazette*:—'To the Editor. —Sir,—Allow me, a native of Russia, who took part as juryman in the trial at Liutseen of Jews falsely accused of murder, to express my indignation at a leading article in No. 128 of the *Voice of Moscow* newspaper, for insinuating that the jury brought in the accused "Not guilty" through fear of their co-religionists. The article says the Jews paralyse some of the most important functions of Government, and it laments that as being too much to bear. I say it is strange and barbarous to hear it asserted that a Russian jury has unjustly found accused Jews "Not guilty" of the murder of Dritch; and still more strange to be told that we Russians, who live under the protection of Russian laws, should be in fear of a handful of Jews, whom we have ill-treated in many places and on many occasions, and who, be it observed, have never dared to molest us in return. But reasonable and perspicacious people residing at Moscow, which is far away from us, appear to be able to see and hear better what takes place in the town of Liutseen than we do who are the inhabitants thereof. But I take the liberty to inform the above-named newspaper that we Liutseeners have no fear whatever of the Jews, for this reason, if for no other, that they form only two-fifths of the population of our town; and I am quite sure that if the writer of the article in the *Voice of Moscow* had been on the jury which tried these Jews he would have acquitted them with as little hesitation as we did. Signed, "A member of the jury who lately tried Jews at Liutseen for supposed murder."

SPAIN.—The cholera is continuing its ravages in Spain, especially in the provinces and cities of Murcia and Valencia. In Murcia much distress prevails, almost all the upper and middle classes having left the city, to the number of thirty thousand.

A brief Ministerial crisis has occurred in Madrid. The Premier waited upon the King on the 18th inst., and received an intimation that it was the Royal pleasure to visit the cholera-stricken districts in the south-eastern provinces, and that Queen Christina would accompany the King. Ministers consulted, and informed the King next day that they would resign rather than accept the responsibility of this journey. The King consulted other advisers, and finding that no statesmen attached to his dynasty would form a Cabinet that would approve his tour, his Majesty stated that he had abandoned the idea of visiting Murcia. Ministers therefore remain in office.

The inhabitants of Madrid made a demonstration on Saturday to express their displeasure with the Government announcement of the existence of cholera in the capital. All the places of business, including the cafés and taverns, were closed, and the people perambulated the streets. The King and Queen on the way to the Cathedral were cheered. The Civil Governor drove through the crowd, and was hissed. Thereupon the Civil Guards were ordered to clear the streets, a *mêlée* ensued, shots were fired and stones thrown. Two men were killed and eleven persons seriously injured. Some forty arrests were made. On Monday the shops were reopened, and Madrid presented its usual appearance.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Standard* states that the abandonment of King Alphonso's visit to Murcia has caused deep disappointment to the inhabitants:—"From this cholera-stricken city of 86,000 inhabitants, where 1,400 deaths out of 3,000 cases of cholera have occurred in twenty days, almost all the wealthier inhabitants fled at the first outbreak. They were soon followed by about 30,000 persons of all ranks, who spread the epidemic to many villages in the beautiful Huerta, a very garden of tropical vegetation. Among this unhappy population so terrible is the epidemic that during the last three days 510 cases and 230 deaths have occurred. Some rain fell on Sunday, which increased the torrid heat, and created a strange bluish mist at nightfall over this interesting and afflicted country. Awful tales are told of whole families having been swept off before the devoted village doctors and the priests could bring relief. Yet still the sturdy wiry peasants are at work in the fields. The aspect of the town of Murcia is very dull. Many of the shops are closed, and many houses untenanted. A few people gather in the cafés or casinos. Processions from the churches pass along the streets with unwonted frequency, the priests carrying the Host to the dying; and as the acolytes tinkle their silver bell the people kneel in the streets, uncover their heads, and cross themselves. Other processions twice a day parade the infected streets, and carry about the relics and images of saints. The Bishop has instituted solemn services in the Cathedral and the churches to implore the Divine assistance. The Bishop and the Governor are also unceasing in their visits to persons attacked and in the distribution of rations to the poor. A picturesque camp of sheds and tents has been formed on El Malecon Esplanade, commanding a view of the river and Huerta, and close to the gipsy quarter, where splendid types of the Gitano race abound, living in filthy dens. Day and night the dreaded "dead cars" pass to and fro along the streets, and often take bodies away without coffins within an hour after their decease. In the city of Murcia and the Huerta, during twenty-four hours, there were 260 cases and 115 deaths, which is a heavier proportion than that in Naples in 1884.

The Royal Medical Commissioners having completed their report, handed to the Home Secretary on Tuesday the following conclusions:—First, the epidemic in Valencia is Asiatic cholera. Secondly, that the comma bacillus, or microbe, does exist in the liquids used by Dr. Ferran for inoculation purposes. Thirdly, that inoculation is absolutely inoffensive, and ought to be tolerated under State supervision, the State collecting statistics until it can be finally decided if this system is really a preventive against cholera. Fourthly, Dr. Ferran is warmly recommended, as worthy of official protection and assistance, to continue his experiments. The Government will refer the report to the Royal Academy of Medicine and the Supreme Board of Health; but meanwhile will allow Dr. Ferran to inoculate in the cholera-stricken districts. Medical men are much divided in their opinion upon this report; but public opinion has adopted the cause of Dr. Ferran, regarding it as patriotic enthusiasm for native science.

AFGHANISTAN.—The *Novosti* has given up the rumour that Abdurrahman Khan had been assassinated, and states that he is now in Afghan Turkestan at the head of the major portion of his forces, which are concentrated near the Amu Daria, around the village of Scharshambe, seventy-five versts from Maimeneh, on the road to Herat. This the *Novosti* calls a threat against Merv and Sarakhs, and a direct challenge to Russia. It adds that one of the detachments of the Afghan force is armed with the 3,000 breechloaders lately presented to the Ameer by the Indian Government, and is using the latter's gift of fifteen field guns.

The British consul, returning to Resht from visiting the mission camp, along a road within the limits of Persian territory, lost a mule near Sarakhs. He sent his clerk with a civil note to the Russian officer commanding at that place, asking for his assistance to recover the animal. No reply was returned, but the clerk was arrested and sent as a prisoner to Askabad. The commission is still at Sinjao. It is hoped that the Bolan railway will be opened to Mach on the 15th of August. Reinforcements of 2,000 men have reached Herat from Candahar.

INDIA.—It is stated that if war is avoided the outlay on military preparations to the end of August is not likely to exceed two millions instead of three as expected, but against this reduction must be set off an extra outlay of sixty lakhs of rupees necessitated by the bumper crop of opium. Meanwhile the Secretary of State will borrow in England two millions for public works.

Afghan reinforcements to the number of two thousand men have arrived at Herat from Candahar, and ten thousand Martini-Henry rifles are now on their way from Cabul. Intelligence has been received at Simla that the Russian telegraph line has been completed to Sarakhs.

The following telegram from the President of the Landholders' Committee in Bengal has been received:—"Twenty-five thousand tenants met in Jessore, Bengal, before images of the Queen—Empress, and Viceroy, to protest against the Tenantry Act, by which they said they will not benefit, while it will fearfully increase litigation, and that it is not the landlord that most presses upon them, but the heavy stamp duty and court fees."

TURKEY.—The question between the Russian Ambassador and the Porte in connection with the domiciliary visit ordered by the Governor of Salonica at the house of the Russian Consul has been amicably settled. The Porte has instructed the Governor to pay an official visit to the Consul, who will return it the same day.

EGYPT.—The Nile has risen a foot at Dongola, but is not expected to rise at Cairo till next month. Serious damage has been caused in the Delta by the unusual lowness of the river.

Dongola is now practically deserted; indeed, the *Standard* correspondent states that Sir R. Buller, before departing, searched the houses to see that no one was left behind. The total number of refugees is 12,705. General Buller brought away last week the Royal Sussex Regiment, leaving at Dongola as a rearguard a battery of artillery, half of the 19th Hussars, and the West Kent Regiment, under General Brackenbury, who will hold the town for two or three weeks longer. The heavy camelry and half of the light camelry have left Wady Halfa. On Wednesday week the Black Watch, in all twenty-three officers and 607 men, left Assouan for Cairo in four barges, carrying with them also ninety-seven invalids.

A French squadron of four ironclads and a gunboat is now anchored at Alexandria.

The new channel round the sunken dredger in the Suez Canal was completed on Sunday, and the traffic resumed after twelve days' interruption. No fewer than 110 steamers, representing 250,000 tons of shipping and 350,000 tons of cargo, and sufficient if placed in a line to form a procession nearly seven miles long, have been delayed. The *Daily News* correspondent observed:—

"An accident like that which has caused the present disastrous block may happen at any moment. In time of war, let me ask, in all seriousness, what is to prevent an unfriendly Power from purposely sinking steamers in mid-channel? There would not be the slightest necessity to come into collision with a dredger. Great praise is unquestionably due to the staff of the company. With three dredgers, eighteen mud-hoppers, and 150 Arab labourers, they have worked night and day to cut a channel 400 yards long. The unfortunate dredger is still in the channel."

A Cairo telegram states that the International Indemnity Commission have waited upon the Khedive and presented a petition in favour of the issue of negotiable Treasury bonds to be used for the payment of the awards made by the Commission. His Highness has promised to take the proposal into consideration.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* has had a conversation with Nubar Pasha. He appeared to have some hope of more energetic action on the part of England. He added, however, that with six months more of the present paralysis Egypt will be dead. With reference to Lord Wolseley's despatches on the abandonment of the Soudan, and especially Dongola, Nubar Pasha remarked:—"He only says in three pages what I said in three lines in my last message to Earl Granville through Sir Evelyn Baring—a message which was not among those selected for publication. It was as follows:—'For the last time, before it is too late, I pray you to reconsider your decision to abandon Dongola. It will be an irrecoverable blow to Egyptian and English reputation, and is certain to bring fatal consequences.'" A French squadron of four ironclads and a gun-boat is now anchored at Alexandria. Its presence naturally gives rise to much comment. The utmost stagnation prevails in official circles, where men wait to see whether a change in the English Ministry may bring about a change in Anglo-Egyptian policy.

Sir Julius Vogel, the Colonial Treasurer of New Zealand, in making his financial statement, announced that the Customs duties required revision owing to a diminution in the consumption of spirits and an increase in the local production of dutiable articles. He therefore proposed to increase the duty on tea by twopence per pound, and that on wines and spirits by sixpence per gallon. He also proposed to increase the succession duties. Half the cost of future district railways would be charged to the local bodies. It was intended to encourage and develop the mining, forest, and fishing industries.

The Government of New Zealand has appealed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to the Governments of the Australasian Colonies to reconsider the question of the Federal Councils Bill, so far as to provide that no legislation of the Federal Council shall have effect within any colony until the Legislature of that colony shall have approved such legislation. The New Zealand Government considers it would be quite impossible, without the insertion of such a provision, to recommend its acceptance to the Parliament of New Zealand; and equally impossible, if any Government were to recommend it, that the Parliament of New Zealand would consent to such an utter abnegation of its powers as would be involved by its accepting the Federal Council under the Bill proposed. When once a colony has accepted the Act it would place itself [in the position of allowing] a number of laws relating to most important subjects to be passed without any larger share in the legislation than would be comprised in the presence of two of its representatives in the Council. It appears to the New Zealand Government that the proposal is altogether inconsistent with the autonomous powers which are vested in the Legislatures of the various colonies. The Government is of opinion that if the Imperial Bill be enacted it will remain a dead letter—that is to say, that the Legislatures of no four colonies within the Australasian group would agree to adopt the Act. The amendments proposed to be made in the Act by Her Majesty's Government do not, it is held, affect the point to any extent. The clause allowing the withdrawal of a colony is not important, seeing that the laws which have already been passed will not be repealed by such withdrawal. If the powers of the Council were limited as suggested, the New Zealand Government is of opinion that it might be very useful in assisting to frame laws of common interest to all the colonies, while it would strengthen the bonds of union between them. The document is signed by Sir Julius Vogel, on behalf of the Premier, and is dated "Wellington, April 23, 1885."

Two Parliamentary papers have been issued with regard to the respective spheres of action of England and Germany in New Guinea and in Africa. With regard to New Guinea Earl Granville, on April 25, wrote to Count Münster, proposing that the boundary of the German protectorate should commence near Mitre Rock, on the eighth parallel of south latitude, running along that parallel to the 147th meridian E. long., and thence in a N.W. direction to the 144th meridian on the sixth parallel, and so W.N.W. to the intersection of the fifth parallel with the 141st meridian. On April 29 Count Münster wrote accepting the proposal. With respect to Western Africa, Earl Granville wrote on April 29 proposing the boundary line between Germany and England in the neighbourhood of the Cameroons, and on May 7 Count Münster wrote accepting the proposal on behalf of Germany.

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

ANOTHER STORY OF THE SACK OF KHARTOUM.

The military correspondent of the *Daily News* at Dongola sends another story of Gordon's death told him by a Greek, who was made to wear the Mahdi's uniform, and in this costume walked down to Berber. He then resolved to escape altogether. He had no money, but begged his way from village to village. Sometimes he was hunted, and had to hide away; at others he was made to work as a captured slave by men who knew him to be a Greek. At length, after a period of twenty-eight days from Berber, he reached Aboudom, where, suspected at first as a spy, he was made prisoner. He was then sent down by Colonel Butler to General Buller, and arrived at Dongola last Saturday. In the course of his narrative, the Greek (whose name is Rosti Pinago) said:—

"Do you know that Gordon used to send off hundreds of letters, but these were always taken to the Mahdi? People used to come to him volunteering to take letters, and Gordon believing in them would give them good backsheesh. Stewart used generally to be at a battery he erected close by the kiosk where the band played. The rebels, knowing Gordon lived in the palace, used to fire at it all day long, and Stewart would reply to them. Gordon had sand-bags piled up on the roof, and from this he was watching day and night for the arrival of the English. I think he never slept. By night he used to send up rockets. You ask me about the shops and magazines on the promenade over the Blue Nile. Gordon had all these cleared out for the English who never arrived. We were starving. Gordon had some biscuit and flour, I believe, in the palace. Some Europeans ate grass, and cut down palms to extract the pith from them. The Egyptians and Blacks ate anything they could get hold of—camels, donkeys (I have known a donkey's tail sell for eight dollars), dogs, cats, rats. We were entirely surrounded for three months."

The English, he said, could have reached Khartoum with great ease; if one Englishman had appeared, the whole population would have been cheered out of its despondency.

"The steamers arrived at Halfiah. I saw them about one mile and a half from Khartoum. They turned back directly; but I say this—if they had come on then every man would have been destroyed. The soldiers pointed them out to me jeeringly. 'There are your English!' they cried. When the steamers approached a great cry arose through the town: 'The English are coming! the English are coming!' The rebels took their rifles and commenced to fire at them. 'Ha!' said a man to me, 'look at them; they cannot save you.' It may have been arranged to deliver up the city just before the English came. I don't know; but this I know, if you had come three days or two days sooner you would have taken Khartoum easily. Farig moved away the troops guarding the gate that was entered the night before, and took them to the other side of the town on some pretence or other. Gordon did not know of this—nor did any one, I think, except the troops themselves. We Europeans knew there were traitors, but we did not think they could do anything, or we should have formed ourselves into a band."

Telling of the massacre, the man said:—

"I was with some Greeks—eight in all—near the Mosque, when we heard a hideous uproar as of men shouting and yelling, and of women wailing around about on all sides. Nearer and nearer did this long-continued roar approach, swelling as it were and now bursting close on our ears. Men with frightful gashes on their faces and limbs came flying by, and towards us women with torn garments and dishevelled hair, shrieking 'Jesu Christo!' We ran up to the top of the Mosque, and saw that the town was given up to massacre and bloodshed. We ran to a house, barricaded the doors and windows, went upstairs, shut ourselves into a room, and determined never to surrender, but die like Greeks. How we escaped I will tell you. You have asked me where Gordon Pasha was slain. You say everybody has said he was either killed on the courtyard steps of the palace or outside, going to the Austrian Consul's house. They all lie! True, I did not see Gordon slain; but everybody in Khartoum knows where the event happened. An Arab rushed upstairs and shot him with a gun as he was reading the Bible. Another Arab cut off his head and put it on a spear; and so went forth into the city, carrying it and brandishing it on high. The Copts in the Palace in the rooms below were slaughtered at the same time. The Arabs came pouring in; they slew every man they could find; no mercy was shown to any one. There was no resistance. I don't think a hundred shots were fired by Egyptians or blacks. Men ran in and shut themselves in houses; but doors were burst open, and spearing, cutting, and slashing went on bravely in the streets, in the market-square, in the bazaars. It was a horrible scene this bazaar afterwards. One corner was so full of corpses and dying that we could not get by. I had my hands tied, and I fell several times in the road, slippery with blood. The havoc went on till eight o'clock. Then Mahomet Achmet sent over word from Omdurman that Allah had revealed to him that slaughter must cease. We were told this. It was shouted about the streets, and those that were still hidden were bidden to come forth. Of forty-two Greeks only eight escaped. There were ten Jews; these were killed, I think. Gordon's head I saw on a spear. It was taken over to Omdurman, and shown to Mahomet Achmet. It was laid before him. A grim savage smile passed over his face. He gazed long at the countenance of his late enemy. 'God be praised!' he cried, 'can this be his?' He did not express anger at Gordon's death, as you say has been reported—he made merry at his death when it was told him. The head was then borne away, and men plucked the hairs out of his head and beard, and spat in his face. His body was cut up into little pieces. This was his end! I omitted to say that Gordon wrote to the Mahdi saying he might be Viceroy of Kordofan. The Mahdi replied: 'I am sent by God to be king of all,' and invited him to surrender. Gordon replied in insulting terms, saying he was a false Mahdi, and that he (Gordon) would never surrender to him.

"The Copt women were taken to a place called Bousi. They were allowed to go in and out of their house as they pleased, and one by one they got claimed as brides. They went out to look for husbands, and when they found one suitable they were allowed to leave as they liked. But the Greek and all the women in fact were put in a room, and the Dervishes and chief leaders picked from among them whom they would. This was at Omdurman. The Greeks, including myself, were dressed in the Mahdi's uniform, and told that from henceforth we were Mussulmans, but we were not circumcised. We were liberated, and were given two dollars each, a monthly allowance. Now, when we heard that our women were taken over to Omdurman and divided among the Dervishes, we proceeded there and craved an interview with the Mahdi. It was allowed. We had to take off our shoes, and when within the inner circle—about a quarter of a square mile—we were made to crawl towards him on our knees. Everyone has to approach him thus. We addressed him thus: 'Kill us, we beseech thee—it is as well. Your Dervishes and great men have carried off our wives, sisters, and daughters, and life is of no more value to us. Slay us!' Thereupon the Mahdi took pity on our forlorn condition and ordered our women to be returned to us. To each one was his wife, sister, or relation returned. Those who had lost their husbands were also returned to us, to take care of us; and also Dr. Georgio Demetrio's daughter, whom you asked after, and whose sister is married in Cairo. She was very pretty. Poor girl, she was lovely. Yes; she was led off at first as a slave; but we got her back, and the nuns, too. Two priests were killed. The nuns lived with us Greeks. Mdlle. Demetrio is now married to a Greek. The daughter of poor Klein, the tailor, was carried off as a slave when her father was killed. Among the white women only the Greeks and the nuns were recovered. There were Egyptian-Turkish women carried off; but the Mahdi ordered that those whose husbands were still alive should be returned to them. Why should there be any doubt thrown on this sad story? Is it not probable? Have you not seen many white women in Khartoum, and is it not probable that these Mussulmans would carry them off? I could give you the names of many of European origin. Had you not delayed three days, these would have been saved. Alas! it is a sad story. The picture you showed me (from an illustrated journal) has not the slightest resemblance to Mahomet Achmet. It must have been drawn from fancy. I will give you a better to-morrow. I am weary of recounting a story over which tears of blood might be shed."

IRELAND.

Dr. Walshe, the new Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, whose election will be formally declared on the 13th proximo, is 44 years of age, and is the son of a watchmaker in Parliament-street, Dublin. He was educated in the Catholic Seminary, Harcourt-street, under Dr. Quinn, late Bishop of Brisbane, the late Bishop Bathurst, and the present Bishop of Brisbane being professors. He was an expert in canon law, and was a leading witness in the action of Father O'Keeffe against Bishop Moran, now Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney. He was also a prominent witness on the Bessborough Land Commission, and opposed the Duke of Leinster's leases. As an educationalist he held before the Queen's Colleges Commission that the standard of matriculation in those colleges and in the Royal University, from whose senate he retired, was too low.

Dr. O'Callaghan, Coadjutor-Bishop of Cork, arrived from Rome on Monday, and was welcomed by a public demonstration. The Mayor and Corporation of Cork received him at the station, and in the evening there was a torchlight procession. The crowd gathered in very great numbers opposite his residence. He told the people that the Bishops had proclaimed aloud at Rome the faithful devotion of the Irish to the Holy See, and he was happy to say that in doing so they were unanimous. Archbishop Croke, in the course of a recent speech, referred at some length to Mr. Errington's supposed mission from the British Government to Rome. He assured his hearers that Mr. Errington had at the present time no influence whatever at the Vatican; though he, and others like him, did all they could in foreign countries to discredit the Irish cause, representing the people as thirsting for the rich man's blood, the priests as mercenary demagogues, and some of the Bishops as high up in the criminal category, dumb if not dangerous dogs. He rejected as incredible the suggestion that the Pope in selecting the Archbishop for Dublin would sacrifice the interests of the Church in Ireland to certain supposed contingent advantages for the Church elsewhere.

Information reached Cork on Saturday that the offices of the *Kerry Sentinel*, a Tralee newspaper, had been wrecked by a mob. This paper, a Cork correspondent states, is conducted by Mr. E. Harrington, brother of a member of Parliament, and is the recognised organ of the Nationalists. It incurred odium during the week through having favoured Tralee sports, held under the Amateur Athletic Association, in preference to those held in opposition under the newly-formed Gaelic Association, and for this defection from Nationalist principles the *Sentinel* office has been wrecked. Last year Mr. Harrington underwent six months' imprisonment under the Crimes Act for allowing a notice convening a meeting of "Invincibles" to be printed in his office. The Tralee Branch of the National League on Sunday expelled Mr. E. Harrington, who was their president and also chief organiser in Kerry under his brother, Mr. Timothy Harrington, M.P. The offence alleged against him was that he had refused to assist at the Gaelic sports, which were held on the same day as the annual sports, for the purpose of boycotting the latter. Mr. O'Connor Horgan, solicitor, organiser of the Gaelic sports, was elected in Mr. Harrington's stead. Considerable excitement was caused in the town by the circumstance.

A report from Pallas states that John Kelly, a farmer, has been fired at near that village. The assailant watched him going into a friend's house, and immediately followed him. When he came to the door he took deliberate aim, and fired from a revolver one shot, which grazed Kelly's leg and struck the chair on which he was sitting. The man, who fired another shot as he was retiring, was disguised. About a month ago Kelly's farm-house was burned to the ground.

Lord Spencer, attended by a part of his household, left Dublin on Monday night. He was to have returned to England on the previous Saturday, but was delayed till there appeared a greater probability that the Conservatives would be able to take up the reins of Government. On Saturday he paid some farewell visits, the first being to the constabulary depôt in Phœnix-park, where he spoke in high terms of commendation to the men. He next went to the Roman Catholic educational institution at the Bagot-street Convent, and from thence to the Church of Ireland training schools at Kildare-place.

The following answer has been given by both the Archbishops to clergy who have consulted them as to applications for the use of schoolrooms for meetings in preparation for the elections:—"In the event of the use of a parochial Elementary schoolroom being requested for the purpose of a political meeting in prospect of a Parliamentary election, the wise and just course on the part of the managers would appear to be either to refuse the use of the room to the friends of both candidates, or to grant the same to both impartially. The choice between these alternatives may depend upon local circumstances, but in no case should the use of the room be granted to the supporters of one candidate and refused to those of the other. In parishes in which other rooms are conveniently available, the use of the schoolroom for political purposes is to be deprecated."

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

The attendance of Peers was very large, and the peeresses' and the diplomatic galleries were crowded. The Prince of Wales was in his place on the cross benches. Lord Granville, rising from the Treasury bench, announced that Lord Salisbury, having accepted office, had gone to Windsor, and at his desire he moved the adjournment of the House till Thursday. The Commons' reasons for disagreeing with some of the Lords' amendments to the Redistribution Bill were considered, with the result that none of the Lords' amendments were insisted upon. Lord Denman having moved the second reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill, the motion was rejected by 36 to 8. Their Lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes to six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

The Treasury Bench was well filled, most of the members of the late Government being present. The sole occupants, however, of the front Opposition Bench were Mr. Winn and Sir William Hart Dyke. After a few notices of motion had been given, Mr. Gladstone informed the House that Lord Salisbury had definitely accepted office and his Cabinet was in course of formation—so far advanced, in fact, that he confidently expected that the new writs for the re-elections might be moved on Wednesday. Under these circumstances, he proposed to move that the Standing Order relating to Wednesday sittings be suspended, and that the House adjourn until five o'clock the following day. On this motion being made, Mr. Collings, referring to a report that an arrangement had been made between the leaders for passing certain Bills, remarked that he did not see his Medical Relief Bill among them, and, considering the importance of the subject, he should oppose the adjournment unless he could have an understanding from the leaders of both sides that his Bill would be included in this arrangement. Mr. Labouchere again asked for some information as to the assurances said to have been given, to which Mr. Gladstone replied that both he and Lord Salisbury agreed that the correspondence should be made public at the earliest possible moment; and he hoped to make a statement to-day, though he could not enter into any undertaking. To Mr. Collings he said the rumour as to an understanding about certain Bills had no kind of foundation, and he thought such a Bill as that of which he had taken charge ought not to be read a second time in the absence of a responsible Government. The motion was then agreed to, and the House adjourned at a quarter to five.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

There was again a very full attendance, and great interest was felt in the re-arrangement of the positions of the respective parties. Long before prayers the floor of the House was thronged with members, and the seats were fully occupied with the hats of hon. gentlemen who were anxious to secure places. At prayers the House had the appearance of being engaged in a great debate, every seat being filled, as well as the standing room at either end of the House and the galleries. The Conservative and Liberal parties had, of course, changed places, while the Irish members, to the evident disgust of many members who could not find room on the over-crowded Opposition benches, refused to budge. Mr. Parnell, Mr. Healy, the Messrs. Redmond, and others had deposited their hats in their accustomed places in good time, and Mr. Justin M'Carthy mounted guard until all danger of expulsion was over. The Treasury Bench was empty, save for the Lord Mayor, Mr. Alderman Cotton, and Mr. Rowland Winn, the latter being the only official member of the Conservative party present. The chief Conservative seats above the gangway were occupied by Mr. Denzil Onslow and Sir Baldwyn Leighton, the former in the seat previously occupied by Mr. Forster, and the latter in Mr. Goschen's seat. On the other side of the gangway Mr. Gorst sat at the corner of the front bench, behind him being Mr. Sampson Lloyd (vice Mr. Burt), and behind him again being Mr. Newdegate. Besides Mr. Gorst, there were on the front bench below the gangway Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Cowen, and others. The rank and file of the party sat generally in the positions corresponding to those they have hitherto occupied on the other side of the House.

On the Opposition side, the front bench was crowded with ex-Ministers, including Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Childers, Sir W. Harcourt, Mr. Mundella, Lord Hartington, and Sir Charles Dilke. Mr. Forster had his corresponding corner seat, but with the exception of the tenacity with which Mr. Macfarlane clung to his old seat, despite the remonstrances of Mr. M'Coan, and the presence of Mr. H. Fowler below the gangway, there was nothing remarkable in the "distribution of seats." Sir W. M'Arthur, on entering the House, walked abstractedly to the Ministerial side, and on discovering his mistake and crossing over was loudly cheered, amid great laughter. In the gallery over the Ministerial benches stood Mr. Herbert Gladstone, with folded arms and wearing an aspect of extreme dejection.

The Speaker took the chair at five o'clock. Mr. R. Winn gave notice that he should move that the House at its rising do adjourn until Friday, in order that any additional new writs might then be moved for, and also he would move on Friday that the House do adjourn until the following Monday week.

Mr. Gladstone said the motion would afford him an opportunity of fulfilling the pledge he had made with respect to the engagements entered into with Lord Salisbury. The first letter he would read was from Lord Salisbury, dated June 17th, in which Lord Salisbury said that before taking office it was indispensable that the Conservative party should obtain from the leaders of the majority of the House of Commons an undertaking to support them in the measures which were absolutely necessary in order to bring the session to a close. The engagements which in their judgment it was necessary that the Liberal leaders should undertake were two—first, that on the days when the Government put down Supply or the Appropriation Bill that the Government business should have precedence; and secondly, if no other provision were made to meet the deficit to the satisfaction of the House, that provision should be made for the issue of Exchequer Bonds to the amount necessary for that purpose. Without the support of the Liberal leaders on those points the Conservatives would not to able to render any service to Her Majesty on taking office. In a letter to the Queen, Mr. Gladstone assured her that there would be no disposition to embarrass the new Government, but he did not consider that it would be for the public advantage to enter into any specific pledges on points, or to control action with respect to which he was not in possession of all the facts bearing upon them. In a subsequent letter he agreed with Lord Salisbury that a dissolution was impossible. In a letter dated June 18, Lord Salisbury said his colleagues were unanimously of opinion that Mr. Gladstone's assurance conveyed no pledge that he would give the new Government the support necessary for completing the business of the session, and that without such a pledge they would not be justified in assuming office in the face of an adverse majority. A memorandum was drawn up by Mr. Gladstone on the 18th of June to the effect that the whole value of the effect of such a declaration as circumstances like this admitted of depended upon the spirit in which it was given and received; and the Liberal leaders would endeavour to apply it in the same spirit in which they entered into the recent conferences on the Seats Bill. On June 19th Lord Salisbnry suggested that the difficulty could be settled if the late Government would give precedence for the financial business to be done, and the Conservatives would engage not to bring forward on the days thus appropriated any other business to which Mr. Gladstone would object. To settle the financial arrangements, he suggested that the income-tax should remain at 8d. for the year, and that provision should be made for the additional Supply through Exchequer bills for a year, or by the formation of a temporary loan. An appeal to the constituencies would be a constitutional resource, but that could not take place if the Royal Assent were given to the Redistribution Bill, and Lord Salisbury and his friends could not take office with advantage to the country unless the Opposition gave some pledge that they would not oppose the remaining business of the session. He (Mr. Gladstone), in reply to that, on the 20th of June, said that he had felt it his duty to consult all of his late colleagues who were within reach, and he was commissioned to inform Her Majesty on their and his part that they conceived it contrary to their public duty to compromise the liberties of the House of Commons—(cheers)—by giving the specific pledge which Lord Salisbury required. On the 20th of June Lord Salisbury, in a letter to Her Majesty, wrote that all he required was a declaration from the late Government that the new Government should be allowed to conduct and carry on the necessary business of the country. He did not understand what Mr. Gladstone meant by compromising the liberties of the House. Lord Salisbury humbly submitted that the declarations contained no definite promise of support, and afforded no security against the immediate recurrence of the present difficulty. On the 21st he (Mr. Gladstone) had replied to that letter, stating that facilities for expediting Supply might reasonably be provided, and that there would be no attempt to withold the ways and means required for the public service. The difficulty which he was not able to surmount was in the endeavour to define beforehand the course to be taken on questions the nature of which could not be known. He therefore could not give the specific pledges on the part of himself and his colleagues asked for by Lord Salisbury.

Mr. R. Winn then said that in consequence of arrangements made in the House of Lords, he could not move the adjournment of the House until Friday, and he would, therefore, withdraw the motion. This was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Winn, new writs were ordered for the following seats vacated by the acceptance of office:—North Devon, in the room of Sir Stafford Northcote; East Gloucestershire, in the room of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; South-West Lancashire, in the room of Sir Richard Cross; Woodstock, in the room of Lord Randolph Churchill; Westminster, in the room of Mr. W. H. Smith; North Lancashire, in the room of Colonel Stanley; Launceston, in the room of Sir Hardinge Giffard; Dublin University (2), in the room of Mr. Gibson and Mr. Plunket; Middlesex, in the room of Lord George Hamilton; North Leicestershire, in the room of Lord John Manners; Mid-Lincoln (2), in the room of Mr. E. Stanhope and Mr. Chaplin; Hertford, in the room of Mr. A. J. Balfour; Mid-Kent, in the room of Sir William Hart-Dyke.

The House adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

The Royal assent was given by Commission, shortly before four o'clock, to the Princess Beatrice's Annuity and the Redistribution of Seats Bills. The Royal Commissioners were Sir Hardinge Giffard (the new Lord Chancellor), Viscount Cranbrook, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Lathom, and Lord Monson.

There was a very large attendance at the time of

public business, and for the first time since the change of Ministry the Liberal Peers occupied seats on the Opposition benches, and the Conservatives on the Ministerial benches.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, who was received with loud cheers, made a short Ministerial statement. He expressed the hope that in the new position of leader of the House he should be honoured with the support always accorded to the nobleman who held that distinguished position. When he was first summoned to Balmoral he pointed out that the Seats Bill made an immediate dissolution impossible, and suggested that the late Government should continue in office during the abnormal interval. It was only on finding that Mr. Gladstone considered himself precluded from reconsidering his resignation that he agreed to take office on condition of receiving satisfactory assurances that the new Government would be permitted to wind up the work of the session with all practicable smoothness and despatch. Mr. Gladstone declined to give a specific pledge, but as the result of the correspondence the general pledge was specifically implied, and Her Majesty expressed the opinion that the assurances might reasonably be accepted. He added that before many days had elapsed it would probably be his duty to make a statement of policy, and reminded the House that, although distinguished men had talked of the Conservative party being swept off the face of the English constituencies, Lord Palmerston's Government, of which the same was said, lasted ten years.

Earl GRANVILLE was sure the appeal of the new leader of the House would be responded to, and informed the House that Mr. Gladstone, on being asked whether, in the case of the failure of Lord Salisbury to form a Government, he would be prepared to do so, replied that that would entirely change the circumstances of the case. He reminded the noble Marquis that in warning the House against the danger of prophecy he had himself ventured upon a distinct prophecy—viz., that he would continue in office for nine or ten years.

The Friendly Societies Act (1875) Amendment Bill was read a second time.

Their Lordships adjourned at five o'clock until Monday week, July 6.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Mr. AKERS-DOUGLAS, new writs were ordered for the places represented by the following gentlemen, who have accepted office, viz. :—Viscount Lewisham, Lord Arthur Hill, Viscount Folkestone, Colonel Walrond, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Dalrymple, and Mr. A. Bartlett.

A new writ was also ordered for North Lincolnshire, in place of Mr. Rowland Winn, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

The House adjourned at half-past four o'clock until Monday, July 6.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Lord SALISBURY presided at a meeting of the Conservative party held on Thursday at the Carlton Club, and stated the reasons by which he was influenced in taking office, observing, in regard to the future, that they would all agree that a timorous policy would be unwise, if not fatal. He was sure his friends in the House of Commons would give a cordial welcome to their new leader, and also heartily join in paying a tribute to Sir S. Northcote for his long and faithful services to the party. Both Sir S. NORTHCOTE and Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, who addressed the meeting, were warmly cheered.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE issued his valedictory address to his constituents in North Devon on Wednesday, in consequence of the Queen's intention of conferring on him the honour of a peerage. He returns his warmest thanks for the kind and generous confidence they have placed in him during that period—not far short of twenty years—in which he has had the privilege of representing them, and assures them it is with feelings of deep personal regret that he finds the term of their connection has expired. It was hardly necessary to say that he meant only the term of their connection as electors and representative, for the ties which had bound him to them in heart and affection were indissoluble. He says, in conclusion :—"At the present anxious and critical moment in the history of the country I hold it to be every man's duty to place his services heartily and unreservedly at the disposal of his Sovereign in any capacity in which it appears to be in his power best to defend the true interests of the British Empire, and to uphold the cause of law, order, and good government."

Those members of the House of Commons who have to seek re-election on taking office in the next Administration have issued addresses to their respective constituents. No opposition to their return is expected; but at Launceston, vacated by Sir Hardinge Giffard, Mr. Webster, Q.C., will be opposed by Mr. Pethick.

The transfer of places was effected on Wednesday in the House of Commons without much confusion. Mr. Gladstone, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Childers, and other members of the late Cabinet took their places on the front Opposition bench, while the ex-official overflow found seats below the gangway. Mr. Gladstone was cheered by his friends when he made his appearance, but there was nothing in the shape of a demonstration. A great number of Peers occupied seats in the tribune assigned to them.

The annual dinner of the Constitutional Union took place on Wednesday night, under the chairmanship of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., President for the year. The loyal and patriotic toasts having been proposed by the CHAIRMAN, the Hon. SIDNEY HERBERT, M.P., proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," which was responded to by Lord NAPIER of MAGDALA and General Sir E. B. HAMLEY. The toast of the evening, "The Constitutional Cause," was next proposed by the Hon. E. STANHOPE, M.P., Chairman of the Executive Committee, and responded to by Sir M. HICKS-BEACH. The remaining toasts were "The Houses of Parliament," proposed by Mr. EDWARD RIDLEY, and responded to by the Duke of PORTLAND and Sir FREDERICK MILNER, M.P.; "India and the Colonies," proposed by Lord HARRIS, and responded to by Sir JAMES FERGUSSON, Bart., late Governor of Bombay; and "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. TREVOR-WHITE, and responded to by Sir GERALD GRAHAM.

The Earl of DALKEITH, Conservative candidate for Dumfriesshire, speaking on Wednesday at the annual meeting of the Dumfriesshire Constitutional Association, expressed a firm conviction that amongst the new voters are the best supporters of Conservatism, and that they needed only encouragement and proper working to make them a majority for the party. While it was a bold thing of Lord Salisbury to undertake to form a Government with a majority of 100 against him in the House of Commons, Lord Salisbury and his party found it impossible to withstand the summons of loyalty, patriotism, and duty. The men and the party who did their duty, however disagreeable and disadvantageous in the meantime, would win in the long run. They might now expect a firm and powerful, and at the same time a peaceful, foreign policy. They might be sure also that every step would be taken to co-operate with our colonies, and to alleviate the depression so keenly felt by all classes, and to make England respected all over the world.

Mr. JAMES LOWTHER, M.P., addressed his constituents at Market Rasen on Tuesday evening. He said he sincerely trusted that what he had not previously hesitated to describe as a national calamity—namely, the acquisition to power nominally of any Ministry which did not possess real power, backed by a majority of the Commons House of Parliament—might even yet be averted. In his judgment it was contrary to the fundamental principles of the English Constitution that any Ministry could hold office unless it could do one of two things, either command a majority of the existing House of Commons, or be in a position to tender constitutional advice to the Sovereign to enable an appeal to be made promptly to the country. No Government formed from the Conservative side of politics could at the present moment do either of those things, and consequently he clung to the hope—though from what he read that hope might be slender—that they might be spared what he should consider the national calamity of a Conservative Government unbacked by a Conservative majority in the House of Commons. Seventeen years had now passed since he was first entrusted with an important political post by the late Lord Beaconsfield, and during the interval he had held more than one office in the Conservative Ministry; but at the same time it was a matter of notoriety that he was not at the present time under existing circumstances desirous of resuming any official position, the fact being he had not only no personal ambition to embark once more in official life; but he would take the liberty of adding that he felt a peculiar gratification, on public and not upon personal grounds, in being in a position to adopt such a line of action on many important questions as might appear conducive to the public interest without at the same time in any way embarrassing those with whom he had hitherto been connected in political life. He was told that assurances had been demanded and received from the outgoing Prime Minister that he would be graciously pleased not to offer what was termed factious opposition, whatever that might mean, to those who succeed him in office. But were those assurances, when obtained, worth the paper upon which they were written, and could they look forward with any degree of confidence to the construction which would in course of time be placed upon what were called assurances. We had had during the last few weeks experiences of the rapidity with which an assurance became an understanding, and the extraordinary velocity with which an understanding converted itself into a solemn covenant, and they found out the solemn covenant had as little existence as the understanding, and both were precisely at all fours with the assurances. His humble contention was that it was beneath the dignity of any political party to seek assurances, even if they were worth anything when obtained. Referring to Mr. Gladstone's Ministry, he said the peace so freely promised had resulted in an infinite number of unsuccessful wars. We had had difficulties and troubles in almost every quarter of the globe, and we now found the position of this country in its relations to Foreign States discreditably lower, and the Great Powers of Europe, one and all, had realised that the affairs of England were being administered in a paltry and huckstering spirit unworthy of the Government of a great nation.

Mr. MARRIOTT, Q.C., M.P., speaking at the annual dinner of the Kingston-on-Thames Conservative Association, held on Tuesday night at the Albany Hall, Kingston, said their opponents had evidently misunderstood Conservative statesmen. They thought that Lord Salisbury would jump at office with as much delight as they would, but they had found out that he was made of different metal. They had discovered that men like Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and he who had done so much for the Conservative party—Sir Stafford Northcote—were not anxious to seize upon office on any terms which their opponents chose to offer. So long as the retiring Ministry found it to their interest to hold on to place and power, they whipped up their followers and secured majorities, but when they thought they might obtain a mean advantage they allowed themselves to be defeated. Lord Salisbury had accepted office upon his own terms, and was now Prime Minister with dignity and honour. He would do his duty to his Queen and country, and people would see that a Conservative Ministry valued the interests of the country more than the interests of their party. Great difficulties would, however, have to be contended against, and no doubt it would have been more to the interests of the Conservative Party to have abstained from taking office. Unfortunately, the greatest difficulties were not those created by any foreign Power, or the situation in Egypt, but the difficulty of dealing with the enemies of the Empire, the foes of our own household, the Radical party represented by Sir C. Dilke and Mr. Chamberlain. The first use these gentlemen had made of their newly-acquired liberty was not to lament over the misdeeds at home and abroad of the Government of which they were members, not to offer a word of regret or sorrow for the blood and treasure that had been wasted through their vacillation and incompetency, but to declare their intention, from the most self-denying motives, to spend the vacation in Scotland and Ireland in teaching the people the blessings of local self-government. He would warn Mr. Chamberlain that if he spoke so freely in Ireland before the termination of the Crimes Act as he had in England, he might find himself in a position to arrange the terms of a new Kilmainham Treaty with Mr. Parnell from the inside of that celebrated gaol. It might be better for Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Chamberlain to visit Zululand, India, and the Soudan, and learn the nature of public opinion there as to the results of Radical policy, and they might return through Italy and Germany and be convinced of the loss of reputation that England had suffered during the past five years on the Continent of Europe. They well knew the mistakes of their Government, and the lamentable consequences, but they appeared to glory in their shame, and endeavoured to trail the red herring of local self-government across the scent of retribution, to prevent the electors from remembering their crimes. But the people would not be misled. They would remember that the welfare of the masses depended far more upon the general principles of administration and a sound foreign policy than upon self-government. Liberalism, as understood in the days of Lord Palmerston had ceased to exist. Unconscientious and unscrupulous statesmen appealed to the ignorance and greed of uneducated voters for selfish purposes. It was, however, a matter for deep thankfulness that they now had in office men who would place the country before party. Within the next few months Conservatives must exert themselves to educate the people in those principles by which alone the welfare of the Empire and the true happiness of the nation could be secured and maintained. The Conservative cause was identical with civilisation. It signified the improvement of the whole world and the maintenance of the English race as the leading nation on the earth. Lord Salisbury inherited the glorious traditions of the greatest English statesmen—Pitt, Canning, and Beaconsfield—and they had the greatest confidence that the Conservative cause would grow and flourish under his leadership. At the conclusion of Mr. Marriott's address three hearty cheers were accorded him by the company.

Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE, M.P., and Mr. CAINE, M.P., spoke on Thursday evening at a meeting held at the Chatham Hall, Battersea, to promote the candidature of Mr. J. Fletcher Moulton for the borough of Battersea and Clapham. Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE referred to improvements which he had effected or had proposed to make in the postal and telegraph services, and observed that the Tory party could now be admitted to power without danger. But four months ago it was different, and the Government, after defeating a vote of censure by a majority of only fourteen, debated in a Cabinet Council the question of resignation, and only decided to remain in office in consideration of the questions then pending with foreign Powers, and which were now settled.

Mr. GOSCHEN, on Monday, in response to an invitation of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, gave in Manchester Town Hall an address on the condition and prospects of trade. After apologising for venturing to address an audience of suffering experts, Mr. Goschen said he would make only one reservation, that the meeting should not think of the cotton trade only, but of trade in its broader aspects. There was no person in that hall who did not admit that there was a depression in trade. That he should not attempt to prove, nor should he follow into the question as to the existence of low prices, as he understood that the existence of low prices was generally admitted. In this depression we had some features that had seldom been seen before during a time of depression. We had a contrast between low prices and no speculation, and we had the contrast between low prices for the raw material, yet with no advantage derived from the manufactures and commerce generally. There was one contrast to which he would ask their particular attention, and it was this: to the universal acknowledgment that there was depression in trade, and at the same time to the astounding statistics which were published by the Inland Revenue-office as the income-tax returns. How was it that the income-tax returns showed a continual increase, while every manufacturer and every merchant was complaining of absence of profits? Because, if there was one feature about the present depression, he took it that it was the absence of profits? Lord Derby in his recent speech at the Trinity House made the significant statement that no proportion of the increased wealth of the nation had gone into the pockets of the landowners, and, therefore, it was to be inferred that it was due almost without exception to the growth of English commerce and English manufactures and English foreign trade, and he showed that the gross assessment of the income-tax had risen in the last fifteen years from £430,000,000 to £600,000,000. He was bound to say it was not true, not in the very slightest degree true, that any such sum came from the increase in trade, commerce, and manufactures going abroad. Let us congratulate ourselves that at all events the retail trade must be in a satisfactory condition generally. This being the case, there ought to be a greater increase in the smaller incomes than in the larger ones, and so he found it to be. Taking the years 1876, 1877, and 1882-3, he found that between those years the increase in incomes under £500 had been 6 per cent., while those of £500 and over had only been 4 per cent.; therefore the profits of those with incomes under £500 had been very much larger in proportion than the others. When he came to look at some of the industries of the country which were separated, then he passed from satisfactory progress to most unsatisfactory decay. He saw that the profits of the iron industry had fallen from £7,000,000 to £3,000,000, and that those of the mining industry had fallen from £14,000,000 to £7,000,000. Those were startling figures, showing under what conditions some of the great industries of this country were being carried on. He rejoiced to think that in many other departments of trade it was not so, and that our national industry was made up of such a vast variety of separate industries that, notwithstanding some might languish and suffer, many of those on which the prosperity and power of this country depended were still fairly maintained. The savings of the country seemed still to be accumulating. The consuming powers of the country showed no signs of diminution. In the consumption of liquor the decline was, however, noticeable. We now only drank ten glasses of spirits for every 13 that we drank in the greatest drinking year, which was the year 1875, and we had cut off one glass out of 10 even during the last four or five years. In tobacco there was a very slight decrease. We had cut off a pipe and one cigar out of every 35, and that was supposed to be due partly to the higher duty. There was some satisfactory feature in regard to pauperism. Pauperism had fallen during the last 15 years from 5 per cent. to 3 per cent. of the population, not from 5 per cent. to 3 per cent. upon the same, but from 5 per cent. to 3 per cent. on the increased population. The statistics with regard to the cotton trade showed that competition was increasing, and the volume of trade increasing, while profits might not be increasing at the same ratio. The number of spindles of all kinds had increased from 44,200,000 in 1879 to 47,000,000 in 1883, while the increase in the persons employed had risen in these four years from 433,000 to 513,000. The right hon. gentleman, referring to the complaints of over-production, said that traders might object to this large production, but they were not justified in pointing to over-production as a cause of bad trade, unless they could show that there were stocks rotting in the stores. It was not desirable to rely simply on our past prestige. We must look at the conditions under which we obtained and maintained our trade, and see which we could not command, and which we could, and ought, and would continue to command. He wanted to know if there had been a falling off in trade had there been no expansion. Where, if they examined the statistics, had there been the most expansion, and in what direction was there most hope, He found that while our trade with the great manufacturing centres of Europe had progressed very little, it had increased much more with the colonies of those nations. We had increased more with the smaller countries in Europe than we had with the large countries in Europe, but most of of all had we increased in our own dependencies and colonies. He thought that, looking to the picture of industry and commerce which was spread out before us now, the chief hope was this, that the teeming millions of the old country might find customers in the teeming and increasing millions of Greater Britain beyond the seas.

Sir CHARLES DILKE on Monday night addressed a meeting of Liberal electors at the Welsh Chapel, Radnor-street, Chelsea. Having first referred to the discussion between himself and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach upon the taxation of tea, and denied that he had in any way misrepresented Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Sir Charles went on to say that Sir Stafford Northcote had been driven from his place as Conservative leader by intrigue, because he had been brought up at the feet of Mr. Gladstone as a financier, and had always been as favourable as the Conservatives would let him be to sound principles of finance. As to the question of assurances to the Conservative Ministry, Sir Charles asked how could they expect to receive assurances which never had been given to any Government before? The Liberals had given assurances of a general kind which were far stronger than any asked for and given previously, but they were not prepared to go further in that direction. They were not prepared to compromise the freedom and liberty of the House of Commons by giving assurances of a formal or a definite kind. He trusted that the Conservatives would not refuse to take office, more especially because he had greatly wished to have an opportunity of studying in Ireland the plan of devolution by Parliament to Wales and Scotland and Ireland of much business which at present Parliament was incompetent to discharge. Upon the application of the principle of decentralisation to Ireland there would be much controversy, and it was the intention of Mr. Chamberlain and himself in the earliest holidays which they might be able to take, however short, to attempt to take counsel in Ireland upon the question of those who know that country best. Sir Charles then proceeded to discuss the acceptance of office by the Conservatives, and charged Lord Salisbury with attempting to make conditions which were without precedent, and, according to rumour, under menace; because, although no language of menace was used by Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords, a great deal of the language of menace has been used by the Conservative press, and especially by the provincial Conservative press. Threatening to hang up the Seats Bill and to dissolve Parliament, and so destroy the Seats Bill before it could pass into law, he regarded as the language of menace, of bluff and brag which they could despise, because they knew that no man could act, or attempt to act, upon it. They might reasonably ask whether, in putting off the consideration of the Redistribution Bill—after the repeated agreements between the parties—Lord Salisbury was acting consistently with the agreement which was arrived at to press the Bill forward with the greatest rapidity. As to the constitutional difficulty discovered by Lord Salisbury, the Redistribution Bill was prepared in November last, and contained the clauses which bore upon this subject at that time. It was agreed to and assented to by Lord Salisbury and the Conservative party in December last, with all those provisions in it. Under the Bill the dissolution was, as it is now, impossible in the absence of a register from the moment the Bill passed into law. Dissolution was in itself virtually impossible; and he did not believe that any man would dare to dissolve Parliament.

Mr. C. T. RITCHIE, M.P., presided on Monday night at the monthly house dinner of the City Constitutional Club, and in responding to the toast of "Prosperity to the Conservative Cause and the Health of the Marquis of Salisbury," said the attitude of the Conservative party at the present moment was fraught with consequences of the greatest importance to their own interests and those of the country generally for a good many years to come. He believed Lord Salisbury had resolved to accept the reins of power, but he had no doubt that if they could find out what was the desire at the bottom of his heart, it would be that he should not at such a period as this, and under all the circumstances of the case, wish to have imposed upon him so difficult a task. But he was glad the noble Marquis had seen his way to undertake that task, notwithstanding all the difficulties with which he was surrounded. From the Liberals they had confusion everywhere; confusion in Egypt, confusion in Central Asia, in Ireland, in their finance, and in the Cabinet itself. Looking to the time which had elapsed, the negotiations which had taken place, it would have been not only a disaster to the party, but a national disaster, if

Lord Salisbury had not consented to form a Ministry. They were not likely to get a great deal of help from their opponents, but utterances such as they had lately heard from Mr. Chamberlain in regard to Ireland would induce men not connected by party ties to support them. If Lord Salisbury had refused to form a Government the Liberal party would have become united, as they would have made the lapse of time the excuse for not renewing the Crimes Act, which was the bone of contention in the Radical Cabinet, and the constituencies would have failed to understand the conduct of the Conservatives in refusing office, and declared them unable to assume power. This would have had a most depressing effect both on Conservative organisations and Conservatives throughout the country. The duty of the Conservative party now was to do their utmost to obtain in the constituencies the support of the voters, and he hoped the Conservative leaders would be able to show, not only by the constitution of their Government, but by the programme which they would put before the people, that they were not, as had been represented by their opponents, a warlike and an extravagant party, but that they were essentially a peaceful, an economic, and a progressive party. Mr. C. Lewis, M.P., replying on behalf of the Houses of Parliament, said that what he feared most in the Conservative party taking office was the humiliation they would have to go through in the face of an unscrupulous and unconscientious majority.

Sir Thomas Brassey, M.P., who was accompanied by Lady Brassey, occupied the chair at the twenty-third annual meeting of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, held on Saturday in Westminster College Hall. There are 543 clubs in the Union, and the total number of members is 17,854. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he took great interest in any attempt to enlarge the resources of the people in the way of education or amusement. The average earnings of the unskilled working classes of London were 16s. a week, and it was impossible to spare much from this for social improvement or amusement. Lady Brassey afterwards distributed the prizes and trophies which had been gained by various clubs and members in athletics and other amusements.

At a meeting of the Hampstead Radical Association, held on Wednesday evening at Brondesbury Hall, Lord Lorne, the Radical candidate for Hampstead, said he believed that the Conservatives had made a great mistake in taking office, for he held it to be a great political wrong to play at leapfrog with Governmental matters, for turned out in November the Conservatives would certainly be. The only chance Lord Salisbury had of keeping in office was by taking some leaves out of the book of the Radical party, but he doubted whether he would have good sense enough to do so. Referring to Ireland, he said it would be the greatest possible mistake to separate Ireland from England; still, we could give them local government to such an extent as not to be harmful to the best interests of the Empire. He would let Ireland, as far as possible, be ruled by Irishmen. The Conservative party need dread no factious opposition from the Radicals; they would support them in everything patriotic.

Lord Kensington on Wednesday evening addressed a meeting at Hornsey in support of his candidature for the representation of the division in Parliament. In the course of his speech, which was occasionally interrupted by dissenting comments, he said the defeat of the late Government would have one great effect; it would enable their great leader, Mr. Gladstone, to recruit his health and regain his strength, so that the whole party might welcome him when, at the end of this year, he led them on to victory, which he (Lord Kensington) was sure would be achieved. Lord Kensington proceeded to say that if the country returned a Radical Government to power some of the first reforms to which attention would be given were reform of the government of London and reform of the liquor laws, so as to give the ratepayers a voice in the granting of licences, and reform of the City companies. Then there must be a reform of the Second Chamber so as to bring it more in harmony with the Chamber of the elected representatives of the people, the first step in which direction would be to relieve the Bishops of attendance there. There must also be some reform of the land laws, and while not favouring confiscation, he thought that the transfer of land might be made more simple, and that primogeniture should be abolished and steps taken to increase the number of proprietors of the land. He confidently looked forward to the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church, and believed that the good of the Church would be trebled with this freedom.

Mr. Albert Grey, M.P., addressing a meeting of his constituents in the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on Saturday night, emphatically denounced the Soudan policy of the Government, and regretted that the splendid spirit of our kinsmen across the seas had been enlisted in such a purposeless and indefinable campaign. Referring to Ireland, he said it would be quite possible to rule there without coercion if the tenants were made the owners of the soil; and with regard to Home Rule, he would extend the same county government to Ireland that he would to England and Scotland. If Lord Salisbury declared it to be impossible to rule without coercion he would support such a measure. With reference to the Afghan question, he would counsel the Government to make the Afghan frontier impregnable, and not to renew any engagement with that country when the present Ameer ceased to reign. Exception had been taken to some of his votes, but he had never voted against the Government when they were placed in a minority.

Mr. Webster, Q.C., addressing a meeting of Launceston electors on Wednesday evening, said that no class, interest, trade, or community, at home or abroad, had been benefited by the late Government, who had by their vacillation and reckless expenditure involved the country in the loss of many valuable lives and an expenditure of millions of money without the slightest good result. Despite this expenditure, we had no guns, no ships, no allies, and the Conservative Government would have to spend millions to place the country in the same position as when Lord Beaconsfield left office. At that time we were friends with the whole of Europe, whereas at present we had scarcely a single ally. It was the duty of a Conservative Government to maintain the prestige of England in all parts of the world, and to bind together the colonies in brotherhood. Then whatever combination was brought against us we could defy them all. He was a Freetrader as far as food was concerned, but he held that a strict inquiry should be made to ascertain the cause of the present great depression in trade. Local taxation should be aided out of the national exchequer. It was the first duty of those who went to Parliament to interest themselves in the condition of the working classes, and to ameliorate their condition by any justifiable means. He would rather trust a Salisbury-Churchill Administration with the interests of the empire than a Government willing to stand by whilst the British flag was trampled in the dust, and to make peace because a few recruits ran away at Majuba Hill.

The appointment on the 2nd of May last is announced of Sir Robert Hart, K.C.M.G., to be Her Majesty's Minister at Pekin. Sir Robert Hart was for some years in the British Consular Service in China, and has since been Inspector-General of Chinese Customs.

IMPORTANT BIBLICAL DISCOVERY.

An important discovery has been made among the manuscripts which Archduke Rénier brought back two years ago from El Fayoum, in Egypt, and which are known collectively to Orientalists as "Corpus Papyrorum Raineri Archiducis." A fragment of the New Testament has been found, comprising a chapter which differs from St. Matthew xxvi. 30 to 34, and from St. Mark xiv. 26 to 30, more than these Evangelists differ from each other. The fragment seems to have been written in the third century A.D., though, according to the style, it might belong to the first century. In the description of the Last Supper, the passage in which our Lord predicts his betrayal is quite different from that in the two Gospels, and the words, "But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee," are wanting. Peter's oath varies also in wording and length. The whole style of the fragment is vigorous, terse, and clear. According to Dr. Bickell, of Innsbruck, the fragment must be the copy of a manuscript older than those from which the accepted versions of St. Matthew and St. Mark have been taken. The papyrus is at present in the hands of the Orientalist Professor Karabacek, of Vienna, and a facsimile of it is to be published. Among the other manuscripts discovered is a papyrus of the Gorgias of Plato, dating from the second century, and differing a little from the known text; also a fragment containing 200 verses of Homer's "Iliad," a copy of the Idyls of Theocritus, another Arab manuscript, in addition to those announced some time ago, dating from the first century of the Hegira, and thirty-eight Latin manuscripts.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* sends the following fuller particulars respecting the discovery:

Professor Karabacek has been good enough to show me the papyrus which has lately been discovered among the El Fayoum manuscripts, and which is alleged to be the fragment of a gospel older than those of St. Matthew and St. Mark. It is a very small fragment, measuring three and a-half centimetres in length and four and one-third in width, and contains seven lines, having 105 words. Of these ninety-six can be plainly deciphered, but nine are indistinct. Some lines are mutilated at the beginning and end, and it is supposed that from ninety-one to ninety-eight letters are missing. The number of deficient letters can be reckoned by comparing lines three, four, and seven with the others. The seventh contains but four letters.

The writing is in Greek, and Dr. G. Bickell, of the University of Innsbruck, who discovered and deciphered the fragment, concludes, from the form of the letters and the abbreviations, that it was written in the third century; but from the style of the composition he infers that it dates originally from the first century, and this is also the opinion of Dr. Edward Harnark, editor of the *Theologische Literatur Zeitung* of Leipzig.

Here is the translation of the fragment, line for line. As already reported, its parallel is to be found in Matthew xxvi. 30 to 34, and Mark xiv. 26 to 30:

1. "But after supper, as they went out.
2. "You will all take offence this night.
3. "According to the Scriptures, 'I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'
4. "Then Peter spake,
5. "And if all, not I.
6. "He said to him,
7. "The cock will crow twice, and before that thou shalt deny Me thrice."

The omission of the words, to be found both in Matthew and Mark, "But after I am risen again I will go before you into Galilee," is noticeable. Dr. Bickell, reviewing the fragment in the *Zeitschrift für Catholische Theologie*—a periodical printed at Innsbruck for private circulation—lays stress upon the importance of the manuscript, as being the earliest fragment of a written Gospel; not canonical, indeed, but yet no pseudograph or heretical composition. Dr. Bickell's views are set forth and approvingly commented upon in an article by Dr. Harnark, which appears in the last number of the *Theologische Literatur Zeitung* of Leipzig. Dr. Harnark, who is a fervent Roman Catholic, distinguished for his Greek scholarship, remarks that, so far as he can judge, Dr. Bickell has taken no liberties with the text, having only added five letters; which it could be plainly guessed were the missing ones, but which simply mended broken words, without altering the sense of a line. The antiquity and genuineness of the fragment are, he argues, beyond dispute, and he concludes:—

"It is strange that a small strip of papyrus, containing about a hundred words, should be able to raise so many important questions with regard to the originality of two of the Gospels, but it would be too easy to dispose of these questions by saying that the papyrus is not genuine. Having given our opinion as to the genuineness, we must, in the interest of truth, maintain that there is no explaining away the omission of our Lord's prophecy as to his going into Galilee except by supposing that the author of the manuscript wrote from memory. But what probability is there that, writing from memory, he would have left out the most striking and important passage in our Lord's conversation with His disciples? Let critics more learned than we are endeavour to account for the omission more satisfactorily than we can. For ourselves, we must submit that it goes far towards suggesting a doubt as to whether the Gospels ascribed to Matthew and Mark were, in the form in which we know them now, composed by those disciples."

The Rev. F. J. A. Hort, in a letter to the *Times* on the subject, says:—"The discovery is undoubtedly of great interest, but it seems right to put in a word of warning against premature acceptance of the interpretation of it suggested by that distinguished Syriac scholar, though it has been endorsed by another scholar of high authority in early Church history, Professor Harnark, of Giessen. What is certain is that the papyri brought from the Fayoum include a mutilated Greek fragment, said to be of the third century, containing matter corresponding to parts of Matthew xxvi. 30-34, and Mark xiv. 26-30, with some condensations and some changes of words. The theory propounded by Dr. Bickell, that the fragment belongs to a Gospel narrative more primitive than either our first or our second Gospel, is fully entitled to respectful consideration; but the evidence, so far as it is yet accessible, appears to me to suggest a different conclusion. The fragment comes, if I mistake not, from some early Christian writer who had occasion to quote the words of St. Peter and his Master, and quoted them with free condensation, abridging the connecting links of narrative still more. Such a mode of quotation and reference is common enough, in early as in late times. Appeal has been made to the words by which the fragment represents 'cock' and 'crow' as signs of primitive purity; while the fact is that it replaces the rare word for 'cock' (ἀλέκτωρ) used in all four Gospels by the common classical word (ἀλεκτρύων), and apparently replaces the very rare use of the verb 'call' (φωνέω) for the crowing of a cock, likewise found in all four Gospels, by a much more distinctive word (κοκκύζω), for this use of which there is various classical authority. These are synonyms that an ordinary Greek writer might easily introduce unawares out of his own habitual diction; it is much less natural to regard them as due to a primitive Palestinian evangelist, and and as having been weeded out by the authors of our extant Gospels. Except in the introduction of a single phrase out of St. Matthew, the fragment appears to follow St. Mark's narrative, and that (with one trifling exception) in the form adopted in recent critical editions. In this, however, as in other respects, much must remain obscure unless additional fragments are recovered, though some points may be cleared up when an exact facsimile is published. Meanwhile some of Dr. Bickell's conjectural restorations must be treated as highly questionable, for they do not appear to tally in length with the vacant spaces. The whole fragment consists of the two middle quarters (to speak roughly) of six lines, which originally contained about 28 letters each, with a morsel of a seventh line. From evidence of this nature it cannot be wise to deduce far-reaching conclusions without full considerations of other possible interpretations, less interesting, no doubt, but better supported by facts already known."

SIR P. LUMSDEN AT THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

A brilliant assemblage crowded the theatre of the University of London, Burlington-gardens, on Monday evening to hear Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Lumsden, K.C.B., read a paper before the Royal Geographical Society, "On the countries and tribes bordering on the Koh-i-Baba range." The Marquis of Lorne, president of the society, was in the chair.

Sir Peter Lumsden, having been briefly introduced by the President, was greeted with repeated rounds of applause on rising to read his paper. On the 25th November last, he said, the Afghan Boundary Commission crossed over the Koh-i-Baba mountains by the Chashma Saby pass; and in drawing attention to the country and to the tribes inhabiting the slopes of this range he proposed to confine himself to the relation of such matter as had not hitherto been brought before the public. Touching, at the outset, on the difficulties presented to the geographer in such a region, he pointed out that to us, happily ignorant of all the horrors involved in the dreaded "Alaman," or Turcoman raid, a map of a country swept by these raids is difficult to comprehend; in such a district names do not signify towns or villages, but merely the sites where they once existed, marked, perhaps, by mounds delineating the ground-plan of forts, caravanserais, houses, or tanks, but of which no other traces now remain. Of the former inhabitants frequently the only records are the tombstones of their burial-places, from some of which *data* may be secured in marking the period when they were swept into slavery or destroyed. For instance, in the tract of country between Gulran and the Khushk river, the last inhabitants were Uzbeg and Hazara, and on the tombstones of their dead were dates extending as nearly as possible over a century—viz., from A.D. 1650 to 1750. Another difficulty to the geographer is that there are generally two names for each stream or location; the first, the traditional one, known to Afghan and Persian, and frequently of Arab or Persian origin; the second that by which it may be known to the Turcoman shepherds or sirdars, who alone traverse these little-frequented routes. Along the northern base of the Koh-i-Baba are a succession of fertile alleys, through which run streams formerly used for irrigation purposes. The marks of watercourses point out the lines of ancient channels, while in many places karezes—that is subterranean canals—indicate a state of past prosperity and extensive cultivation. Towers and walls of still existing forts show that even in those far distant days property required protection, and, as on the site of the old castle of Gulran, the skulls and skeletons scattered over it seem to indicate that indiscriminate slaughter must frequently have attended the destruction of local cities long since untenanted. At Bala Murghab, Karawal Khana, Maruchak, and Penjdeh, besides in several other places, there are foundations marking the existence of former permanent bridges across the Murghab; and extensive remains of large towns at Penjdeh, Killa-i-Maur, Maruchak, and Karawal Khana indicate a state of prosperity once existing in these valleys which has long passed away. Passing from the physical features of the country to describe the character and mode of life of the population, he said there was a marked difference between the Afghans and Turcomans. In Penjdeh, the principal valley of Bagdis, they scarcely ever saw an armed man, and found the Saryks, instead of being the dreaded Alaman-sweeping and slave-dealing people they came to see, an industrious, hard-working race, at that time busy from morning to night in the excavation and clearing of their canals, always moving about with a spade having a somewhat triangular shaped blade continually across their shoulders. The Saryks were stalwart men of good physique, resembling very much in character the Turks. A shrewd, hard-headed, practical people, they continually expressed their desire for security and permanent settlement. These Saryks, along with their brethren of the Tekke, Salar, and other Turcoman tribes, had been for a century the scourge of Northern Persia; they had swept the inhabitants away from valley after valley down the Heri-rud, almost as far as Seistan and westward, within 150 miles of Teheran itself. From the slave trade and plunder secured in these raids they had amassed comparatively great wealth, and they certainly seemed better off than most Asiatic races. The slave trade and raiding having been entirely abolished owing to the action of Russia and the closing of the markets, these Turcomans now eagerly seek for a source from which they can secure wealth and maintain their present prosperity. They own great herds of sheep, amounting in 1884 to an aggregate of 194,250, divided into flocks of from 700 to 1,500 each. They have hitherto generally disposed of their sheep in the Bokhara and Oorgunj markets. On the spot the price of sheep is from 4s. to 8s. 6d., according to age and quality, the latter sum being the price for a four-year-old; camels fetch about £6 10s.; horses from £13 to £25; bullocks, £2 10s. to £3; cows, £2 to £2 10s.; and goats from 4s. 6d. to 6s. With regard to the Turcoman horses, the conclusion arrived at by the officers with him, and he believed also by the Russians, was that the Turkoman horse has been overrated, and that in many respects he is inferior to the numerous herds bred in more mountainous tracts, such as the Kuttighanie of Afghan Turkestan. The Turcoman women do a vast amount of work; they fabricate carpets, purdahs for doors, workbags, horse clothing, nummads and blankets, and when a young woman is engaged it is thought to be the right thing for her to work all the kibitka, domestic carpets, and other household requisites before she is married. When, however, they do marry without having completed this task, it is expected from them that as soon as practicable, by their own labour, they may refund in cash or kind to their husbands the dowry paid to parents on marriage. Such dowry generally consists of 100 sheep and forty tillas, which the bridegroom either pays down in a lump sum to the parents of the bride or by stipulated instalments. The trade of Penjdeh is carried on entirely by Jews; of which there are some twenty families settled here; they are offshoots from the Jewish colony at Herat. They number something like 350 families, and have in their hands most of the trade with Balkh, Bokhara, Khiva, and Merv. After quoting copious extracts from Captain Maitland's description of the hitherto little-known tract lying between the Murghab and Heri-rud rivers along the Gumbegli route, as well as Captain Yates's account of the interesting natural features of the Nomaksar, or salt lakes of Yar oilan, he summed up by saying that the country was one capable of great resources. The climate is good, the winter is cold, and great storms are not unfrequent during the winter months—indeed, the Commission experienced one as late as the second of April; the spring and autumn, however, are beautiful, and the summer, though hot, is nothing to the extremes of heat to which one is accustomed on the plains of India. It is possible even to live in tents or kibitkas, and under the shelter of a roof such luxuries as punkahs would be superfluous. With a settled government and increased population there is no reason why this should not become one of the most prosperous tracts of Central Asia. The lecturer concluded amidst loud applause. The meeting was afterwards addressed by Sir Henry Rawlinson, M. Lessar, and Colonel Stewart.

THE CHURCH DEFENCE INSTITUTION.

The annual meeting of the Church Defence Institution was held yesterday week at the rooms of the National Society, the Sanctuary, Westminster, under the presidency of the Bishop of Durham. Among a large attendance were the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Zouche, Sir J. H. Kennaway, M.P., Sir W. T. Charley, Mr. Hubbard, M.P., Mr. Campbell, M.P., Lord Sidmouth, Archdeacon Emery, Archdeacon Hessey, Canon Gregory, and a large number of the clergy.

The secretary submitted a long report for the year 1884-5, which stated that the committee had the satisfaction of being able to look back on a year of increased activity in the work that had been intrusted to them. The attack and defence of the Church in Wales had tended to unite and weld Churchmen, both clergy and laity, very firmly together in earnest Churchwork. Much had been done to open the eyes of Nonconformists. They now began to see that the Church was neither State-made nor State-paid. Many of the younger clergy were thoroughly studying the controversy, and were speaking with great force and earnestness both in Welsh and English. What was wanted for Wales was that the education of the people, now so thoroughly and powerfully begun, should be carried on vigorously and systematically throughout the Principality. With reference to the new electorate in England, the committee observed that the places chiefly visited in England had been those where there would be a large accession to the electorate, and where instruction in Church matters was much needed. In no places had the lecturers found any marked native hostility to the Church. Where there had been any, it had been the work of agitators. With regard to the forthcoming election, all who were desirous to maintain the religious character of the nation should be strongly urged not to vote for any candidate who had accepted the Liberationist programme. As to the Scotch Establishment, the report pointed out that the Liberation Society's agitation against the Church of Scotland owed its origin to that society's attack upon the Church of England. The organised hostility to the

Church of Scotland did not begin in that country, nor did the movement receive any active encouragement in its earlier stages from the Scotch people. And it it could not even now be said to have any considerable popular support. In conclusion, the Executive Committee would earnestly direct the attention of the members of the institution to the exceptional circumstances under which they met. During the present session of Parliament the suffrage had been widened to an extent beyond all precedent, and a general election had been announced for the autumn. The issues before the constituencies would be of paramount importance, and the question of disestablishment was being forced to the front by the Liberationists. In many instances candidates had accepted their programme in subservience to an importunate demand, and without giving the matter much serious thought. It was imperative that the utmost activity should be directed to counteract such action. Systematic exertions were being made to influence prejudicially the new voters. Disparagement of the clergy, misrepresentation of the work and functions of the Church, lavish promises of pecuniary advantages to the poorer section of the electorate were being constantly indulged in. Few who had not given special attention to the matter had any conception of the laboured detraction that was being resorted to, or of the angry spirit that animated the assailants of the Church. Every endeavour should therefore be made to induce the electors to defend her position; for if a House of Commons hostile to the Church should be elected, no good deeds on her part would avail to moderate the rancour with which she would be assailed. It was a subject outside of all party considerations, since all interests met in the Church of England. With it all institutions were linked. It embraced within itself the well-being of the whole community, and was the firmest guarantee for the stability of the Empire. The committee, therefore, claimed support in their labour to ward off from the country an irreparable calamity; and they felt confident that in the grave crisis with which we were threatened no appeal to the consciousness of duty in the defence of our common Christianity could be made in vain.

The Chairman, in his opening address, said that an exceptional crisis demanded an exceptional effort; and he wished to press the fact upon the attention of the meeting—that a large and unprecedented addition had been made to the electoral roll. Whole classes of men hitherto excluded had been admitted to the franchise. A leap in the dark had been taken, and they could not foresee the consequences—social, political, and ecclesiastical. He had no feeling of misgiving, still less of despair, for he had great confidence in the sobriety and judgment of the people of England, if only they were accurately informed. The Church Defence Institution, therefore, had a duty, and the question to consider was whether she was in the position to bear the strain which would thus be put upon her in the present crisis. The answer to the question must depend upon the support which was accorded to the institution. It was very important that correct information should be diffusedamong the people. The classes who would be introduced to the franchise in his own diocese were certainly not inferior in education or intelligence to those in other parts; but the misapprehensions abroad among them in matters relating to the Church were very serious. It was generally believed that the clergy were paid out of the taxes, and that they received not less than £700 a year each. It was a revelation when it was pointed out to such persons that, while in the Budget there were estimates for the Army and the Navy, there was no estimate therein to provide for the maintenance of the clergy. He mentioned that to show how great was the ignorance even among the classes who were—and he believed rightly—credited with a certain amount of superior intelligence. In speaking of disestablishment, it was not because he thought that the movement was gaining ground, for he had no reason to entertain that apprehension. What were the grounds for disestablishment? He would brush away the arguments from Scripture. It must stand to reason that a Christian ideal would be the identification in all points between the Church and the State. He need not stop to dwell upon the false interpretation of the passage which spoke of the duties to Cæsar and to God side by side. It must be evident that an interpretation which drew a distinct line of demarcation between the secular and the spiritual was altogether unscriptural and struck at the very root of religion. The question, however, was simply one of expediency, and it was upon that ground that it was advocated. The promoters of disestablishment would supply them with the best arguments. They called themselves Liberationists, and, therefore, it must be assumed that their leading motive was liberation. But he would ask—what Church was more free already than the Church of England? What were the two tests of freedom? They surely were these—freedom of opinion and freedom of practical development. The Church of England enjoyed both of those to a very large extent, and he looked upon it as their glory so long as there was a loyal adherence to the main doctrines of Christianity and a loyal and practical obedience to the Church, and so long as there was a great latitude of opinion allowed. The Church was a great gainer from that freedom—from the existence of schools of thought—and for the reason that no man or school of men was perfect all round, and if they tried to expel one school of the Church the Church must be impoverished to that extent. The freedom of thought was to a great extent due to the fact that the Church was established. The Church secured that freedom in two ways. First, the broad ægis of the law was held over all parties, and the triumphant majority for the moment had no power to oppress the minority. Secondly, by the continued establishment the clergy were brought into contact with the mind of the nation and were themselves put in harmony with the manifold and varied interests of the nation. Those two facts were a most valuable guarantee against narrowness. For freedom and practical development no Church in recent centuries had shown anything like the capacity which the Church of England had exhibited during the present generation. That was seen whether they looked to the missionary enterprises at home or abroad or to the educational movement, in which the Church was the earliest in the field with regard to primary education, and educated 50 per cent. more children than the Board schools; or to the philanthropic works, in regard to which statistics showed that the Church of England contributed two-thirds of the whole amount contributed to the Hospital Sunday Fund. The society for disestablishing the Church called itself the Liberation Society; but when he stripped a man of his clothes and robbed him of his purse or his watch, and turned him naked into the streets, he should then consider it was an abuse of terms to speak of liberation. To allude to the society in that way was no exaggeration or caricature, as anyone would see by looking at their programme. They proposed to make a clean sweep of everything. The Church of England, more than any other body in the kingdom, represented the true Church of Christ because she approached more nearly than any other body to episcopal order in doctrine. He ventured to predict for her, if she was only true to herself, a magnificent career in the future; and for that very reason he felt bound to do the utmost that he could to avert measures which would in any way fetter, hamper, impede, or delay the high destiny which he confidently anticipated for her. Disestablishment would do great injury to the work at home, many of the village communities would be paganised, and in populous centres the immediate consequences would, in all probability, be very serious. If the Church of England was not the Church of the lowest of the poor and of the outcast of the kingdom, then certainly no other body was. She owed that position to the fact of her parochial organisations. Let them regard the Church of England with reference to the daughter communities, the American and Colonial Churches, and through them to universal Christendom. The daughter Churches were extending daily and spreading with the support of the English people. That was a most important factor in the future of Christendom—the kernel of its strength and the hope of its union. It was extremely important that the Church of England should be in a position to do a mother's duty to her daughter Churches; but that she could not do if she was suddenly placed in the position of utter destitution and had to cast about for ways and means, and was obliged to abandon old districts because there was no adequate support for her spiritual agencies. Any one who realised the great potentiality of the English Church in the future would do his utmost to preserve intact that great inheritance which she had received from the past.

The Earl of Dartmouth moved the adoption of the report, and corroborated the opinion of the chairman that there was much ignorance respecting the position of the Church of England and her clergy among the intelligent working classes. The taking over of the property of the Church for other uses than that to which it had been given would be purely an act of confiscation.

The report was adopted.

Mr. Pennant then proposed a resolution expressing the satisfaction of the meeting at the results of the efforts for the defence of the Church in Wales during the past year, and urging attention everywhere in the diffusing among the people accurate information respecting the work and claims of the Church and the inevitable consequences of disestablishment.

The Rev. Dr. Phin (ex-Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland), seconded the resolution, and observed that no one more sincerely desired the welfare of the Church of England than himself. The Church of England was a part of the nation, and must be maintained in Wales, otherwise England would lose that which had been a source of strength in the past. The Church of England had by the Act of Union a clear and manifest right to maintain that there should be an Established Church in one part of the Empire as well as in the other. He protested against such a question as the disestablishment of the Church being settled by the votes of the people of either Wales or Scotland. It must be settled by the Imperial Legislature. A few years ago a petition was sent up by the Free Church of the Highlands against disestablishment, and it was signed by 51,000 persons. That was a proof of what the Highlanders had done. The Church to which he had the honour to belong was the Church of a large majority of the population, and of an increasing majority. Of late years, while other Scotch Presbyterian denominations had not been holding their own, the Church of Scotland had been advancing year after year in numbers. That Church had been assailed by the Liberationists with the view to a further assault upon the Church of England, and they made no secret of it, and he hoped that the Churches of the two countries would work hand in hand to resist the common enemy.

Mr. J. Campbell, M.P., in support of the motion, said that the Scotch Church was attacked because of her position and upon grounds which equally affected the Church of England. The argument of the Liberationists was that as they would not have any Established Church, therefore the Church of Scotland must be disestablished. The attack upon that Church was but a preliminary to the attack upon the English Church. After speaking of the similarity of the English and Scotch Churches, he said that the latter was so strong that the Liberationists themselves admitted that its disestablishment was a question of "Now, if ever; now, or never."

The resolution having been carried,

Lord Egerton of Tatton proposed:—

That this meeting begs to express its sympathy with the Scotch Establishment in the attack which has been made upon it, and pledges itself to use all its influence to defeat any measures brought before Parliament which would tend to sever the connection between the Church and State in any part of Great Britain.

He urged united action on the part of the two Churches in defence of national recognition of religion in the two countries. As soon as that recognition ceased there would be a deterioration of the moral atmosphere. That was shown in the case of France, and he could not say that the example in Ireland since the disestablishment of the Irish Church had been in any way to let them see the advantages, either religious or political, which could arise from such a disruption.

The Dean of Windsor seconded, and the resolution was carried, as were votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding and to the National Society for the use of the room.

Metropolitan Free Hospital.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending June 20 was—medical 800, surgical 356; total 1,156, of which 471 were new cases.

HOME REUNION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on the 19th inst. at the offices, 2, Dean's-yard, under the presidency of the Bishop of Winchester. The report, which was read by the Secretary, was to the following effect:—

"The work of the Home Reunion Society had been extending since the last annual meeting. The Rev. W. Ball Wright had been appointed hon. secretary for Ireland. Fresh members had joined them in consequence, and the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* had started a Home Reunion column. In March of this year the *Lahore Church Gazette* started a similar column under the heading "Eirenica." The usual breakfast at the Church Congress was well attended at Carlisle, and was noteworthy from the attendance of the Bishop of Fond-du-Lac, and Dr. Hale, of Baltimore, who had since become a member, and consented to be the correspondent for the American Church. Old friends, including the Bishop of Bedford, kindly supported the cause, and many new names were enrolled. Seventeen essays were sent in answer to an advertisement offering prizes, and the thanks of the society were due to the literary referees for the trouble and time taken in adjudicating the prizes. Two essays were selected which had both been published among the "Occasional Papers." A very interesting paper by Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode, delivered at the Public-hall, Croydon, had also been added to the list by his kind permission. On Sunday evening, the 14th of December, a lecture on Home Reunion was given by Lord Nelson in the Mission-hall of St. John's, Hammersmith, after evening service; the gathering was by no means large, but questions were asked by many anxious to know the best way to work with Nonconformists in a true spirit of love without the sacrifice of essential Church principles. The present outlook of the Home Reunion question was a curious one. The question was very freely ventilated everywhere. Able papers on that and kindred subjects were commented upon in no unfriendly spirit by the Nonconformist press. The continuity of the Church of England was acknowledged by all as an historical fact. The life in our Church manifested more day by day its growth, as being more especially the Church of the people, prepared to fulfil its old position in the new England that was being formed under our eyes. The call for increased zeal in the extension of the blessing of Christianity was acknowledged by calling themselves Christians. The drifting from the old distinctive teachings and practices of the different Nonconformist bodies was so apparent that the bondage of their old trust deeds, any transgression of which would subject them to State control in spiritual things quite as binding as any to which the Church was subjected, was becoming oppressive. This drifting arose from a desire for unity which at present was based on determined opposition to the Church's distinctive claims, and, therefore, fell short of that sure and safe basis of reunion which can only be secured on the lines of the Primitive and undivided Church. In the midst of all these signs the zeal against Church endowments and establishment was greater than ever, though a feeble attempt was made to conceal its bitterness under the *pose* of the candid friend, who, at the certainty of great damage to himself, would relieve the Church from the shackles which were supposed so greatly to hinder her growth. And yet this growth was acknowledged, and Church methods were adopted more and more amongst the Nonconformist bodies, in the hope of thereby improving their position among the people. It was to be feared that the nearer religious bodies approached one another, the more acute became the fight over the few, but essential, differences, which became more apparent. Existing facts in the United States and in our colonies clearly showed that disestablishment and disendowment could never break down the different *status* between ministers duly ordained, and those who were only called to the ministry by their own inward call, or by the acceptance of the congregation; and yet this question of the position of the ministry was at the real root of all our present schisms. Surely in so godly a work as the reunion of Christendom, such worldly matters as the difficulties arising from legal documents, or the equally worldly jealousies of the relative social position of ministers, ought to be no permanent cause of estrangement between those who are truly earnest in their love for Christ, and in a common desire to extend the blessed influences of Christianity amongst all our people."

The Bishop of Pretoria, in moving the adoption of the report, said he was an old member of this society, and now he was a Bishop it commended itself to him more than ever. In his work abroad he found the traces of the disunion of Christendom one of the saddest things to be met with. The diocese of Pretoria was the furthest outpost of English civilisation, and in his scattered villages there were Church of England people, Roman Catholics, Wesleyans, and others; and those differences had to be dealt with. He had, however, been much encouraged by finding instances where his clergy had been able to unite the English-speaking Christians into one congregation. The work of this society was most important.

The Rev. Dr. Hale, of Baltimore, seconded the resolution, and the report was adopted.

The Chairman said they all regretted the absence of Lord Nelson, who had been, and he was afraid was still, seriously ill. There were very few persons who, like Lord Nelson, gave almost the whole of their time to the work of the Church. The small attendance was no doubt due to the fact that the country was not awake to this matter of reunion. But they had with them a missionary Bishop and a divine from the daughter Church in America. There was such wide disunion in Christendom that it would be unreasonable to expect the work to proceed very rapidly. But they must not relax their efforts. It was their duty to work and pray for reunion in the firm belief that Almighty God would bring it to pass in His own time. There were a great many encouraging indications, and there was an inclination towards unity. He could say from his own experience that during the last few years there had been a greater tendency on the part of Nonconformists to come over to the Church, and many Nonconformist ministers had applied to him for Orders. But in their own Church there were a great number of people who did not see the necessity for organised unity. St. Paul speaks of the unity of the body as well as the unity of the spirit, and they had no right to say that unity of spirit was sufficient. Without unity of organisation it was difficult to work with Nonconformist Christians, because they belonged to a different organisation. Unity of body was really most essential, for if they could produce a unity of body throughout the Christian world they would be much more able to tolerate minor differences amongst themselves than they could now. They were in the face of many dangers. The increase of unbelief and vice of all sorts called for the united action of Christians, and it was the duty of every Christian man to labour and pray for union of spirit and the unity of body as well. The disunion amongst Christians was a very serious matter in Mission work amongst the heathen nations. There were some things that were extremely encouraging. In Scotland the Presbyterians were almost daily approaching towards the Episcopal Church. He had recently seen a copy of the hymn-book of the Established Church of Scotland, and he had been greatly struck with the unity of faith and feeling it showed towards the Church of England. It contained all their best-known Church hymns, and its tone and spirit were the same. When they saw that in a body which was very widely separated from the Church they could thank God and take courage. There must be difficulties in their work, but they were really making very true progress. He himself did not expect to live to see the union of even the English-speaking Christians, still less to see the union of the Church of Christ; but he believed their children and their children's children would see it.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on June 6, 13, 20, and 27.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the Acrostic Editor of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.

(Fourth Month, Tenth Year.)

1. G roundso L
2. E m U
3. N epotis M
4. E m S
5. R amro D
6. A phrodit E
7. L ebano N

Solutions have been received from G.C.H., Godiva, Katydid, South Western, Noryb, The Owl, Whaup, Kildale, Pansy, Zulus, L.E.L., Senga, Quandary, Two Countesses, Paddy, Iris, Kiku, Cave Lupum, Cymro, O.R., Sleepy, Roslyn, Conjecture, Waddles, Bios, Tim, S.O.F., Vertumnus, Peewit, Sociable, Emmi, Felix, Viz, Tilly Slowboy, Query, Conjector, Culverin, Pen, S.M.F., Evelina, Spero, Etak, Zyx, M.A.É.B., Chelmsford, Hadji, Mike, and Magnet.

March Ties.—Beam, Persevere, and Todcat have sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

May Ties.—Hampton Courtier, Ketha, Max, and Pegasus have sent correct solutions, and remain competing. No solution has been received from Land o' Nod, who falls out of the competition.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.

(Fourth Month, Tenth Year.)

Prem.

Not, you will grant, the least pleasant of ways
Of spending the summer holidays.

1.

He told of Jugurtha and Catiline,
Every schoolboy his name will divine.

2.

"So great a soldier taught us there
What long-enduring hearts could do."

3.

The fatal letters that ruin have brought
To many a one who their aid has sought.

4.

'Twas he who bade great Cæsar to take care,
And of the fatal Ides of March beware.

5.

His the surname who never would descend,
"A watcher on the column till the end."

The Princess Louise, who was accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, and attended by Lady Sophia Macnamara, laid on Tuesday afternoon the commemoration stone of a new out-patients' wing at the Victoria Hospital for Children. The boys of the Greenwich Hospital and Royal Military Asylum Schools furnished a guard of honour. An address was presented by Earl Cadogan, the president, setting forth the object of the new wing, which is to provide suitable accommodation for the treatment of children as out-patients. A number of children then presented purses, and the Princess subsequently visited some of the wards, saying a few words to several of the patients.

Caution.—Water Filtration.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the Only Filters, containing nothing but the purest Animal Charcoal, are those supplied by the London and General Water-Purifying Company (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d

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SUITES of WHITE ENAMEL, similar to that in the Health Exhibition, from £14.
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HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The difficulties that impeded the acceptance of office by Lord SALISBURY have been overcome, and the change of Government is now formally completed. Lord SALISBURY has not succeeded in obtaining from Mr. GLADSTONE the clear assurances of co-operation in the work of carrying on the QUEEN'S Government which he sought, and which he was entitled to receive. He has decided to dispense with them. It was a question whether it was ever worth while to attempt to obtain a formal undertaking that the Radical leaders would abstain from using their majority in the Lower House for the purposes of harassing the new Administration. It was clear from the first that any pledges which might be forthcoming would be vague and valueless. Mr. GLADSTONE'S refusal to give the assurances demanded is based on a regard for the liberties of the House of Commons. What he is really anxious to retain unimpaired is the unfettered licence of factious Radicalism. Lord SALISBURY has achieved one great end by the negotiations with the Radical leaders. He has made it exceedingly difficult for the Radical party to give full play to their factious impulses. Any attempt to resist the conditions which he has laid down as essential to the due performance of the onerous duty he has undertaken is certain to be visited with the severe censure of public opinion. It is much to be regretted that Lord SALISBURY will be unable to inflict the penalty of a dissolution if a breach of the understanding on which he takes office should occur. But the alternative of resignation remains open; and the fear of this will probably be sufficient to excite a wholesome restraint on the impulses of Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, and their confederates and allies. It is abundantly clear that the downfall of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Administration was due to internal dissensions, and that the hostile vote on the Budget simply afforded a welcome opportunity for abandoning positions that had become untenable. Mr. GLADSTONE distinctly intimated his inability to reconstitute an Administration. Under these circumstances no alternative was left Lord SALISBURY but to undertake the work of government.

There will be a general concurrence in the popular criticism that the new Ministry is to too great a degree a *replica* of Lord BEACONSFIELD'S last Administration. The Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND is missing from the new Cabinet, and fresh strength is given by the accession of Mr. GIBSON, Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, and Mr. STANHOPE to its numbers. Lord CRANBROOK, who is disinclined to undertake administrative labours, becomes President of the Council. The Duke of RICHMOND happily succeeds Mr. CHAMBERLAIN at the Board of Trade, and will have little difficulty in securing greater popularity and achieving greater success than his predecessor. Lord HARROWBY becomes Lord Privy Seal, a position that the reputation won by Lord SANDON fully entitles him to. Mr. CHAPLIN takes office for the first time as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and the agricultural classes will thus have the certainty that their interests will be amply cared for by the new Government. Mr. DAVID PLUNKET becomes Commissioner of Works, which is certainly not the position for which he would have been designated by public opinion. A more singular instance of nomination to a position for which no particular qualifications are apparent is afforded by the appointment of Sir W. HART DYKE as Secretary for Ireland. It is possible that the experiences gained as Patronage Secretary of the Treasury may fit him for the discharge of the duties of the office. It appears that Mr. BOURKE is likely once more to represent the Foreign Office in the House of Commons. The admirable way in which Mr. BOURKE filled the post during the last Tory Administration is recognised by politicians of all parties. Sir HENRY HOLLAND is certain to make an excellent Secretary of the Treasury. The activity and ability of Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT will find ample employment at the Admiralty. Lord DUNRAVEN will be a useful recruit to the official ranks of the party in the Peers. Lord WATERFORD and Lord BEAUCHAMP both assume positions in the Household, though Lord WATERFORD may well aspire to some office of political responsibility. Mr. R. C. WEBSTER and Mr. GORST will adequately discharge the duties of law officers of the Crown, although some regret will be felt that Mr. EDWARD CLARKE'S obvious claims for the time escape recognition.

Whilst ordinary politicians were entirely engrossed in the changing phases of the political crisis, Mr. GOSCHEN, in a spirit of complete detachment from the interests and fortunes of parties, has been lecturing at Manchester on the condition of trade. The subject is a lugubrious one at present, and it is to be feared that no ingenious manipulation of statistics will serve to convince a nation that is suffering from agricultural and commercial depression that after all it is not so very badly off, which is the consolatory thesis that Mr. GOSCHEN maintains. Mr. GOSCHEN'S speech, however, is full of instruction and full of interest. The first point he touched upon was the striking contrast between the absence of profits that is universally complained of and the increase in the Income-tax returns. Mr. GOSCHEN'S analysis showed how fallacious it is to base upon the Income-tax returns opinions as to the national prosperity. A vast amount of Income-tax is notoriously paid upon losses rather than upon profits. Mr. GOSCHEN is of opinion that retail trade has been thriving. The retail traders are certainly not of this opinion, and if there has been a great increase in the number of those earning less than £500 a year, it is because so many who previously earned much more have found their profits vastly diminished. On the question of the condition of trade it is more to the point that the profits of the iron industry have fallen from seven millions to three millions, and of the mining industry from fourteen millions to seven millions. These are indications of the truth, but far from the whole truth. Against unpleasant facts of this kind Mr. GOSCHEN has to point out that the consuming powers of the nation are increasing; more of everything is consumed except spirits and tobacco, and the decrease in these cases is not cause for lamentation. The statistics of pauperism, too, are encouraging, the number of able-bodied paupers having decreased from 170,000 to 78,000. Of most political significance and importance are the figures that Mr. GOSCHEN adduces with regard to our foreign and colonial trade. He points out that during the last fifteen years we have increased our exports to foreign countries sixteen per cent., whilst our exports to our own colonies have increased no less than seventy-four per cent. This fact is, indeed, one for the consideration of the working classes of this country. As Mr. GOSCHEN says, the chief hope for the prosperity of the teeming millions of the old country is that they may find customers in the teeming millions of the Greater Britain beyond the seas.

Peace has at length been formally concluded between France and China, and the new treaty has been duly ratified. It is scarcely surprising that public opinion in France is far from contented with the results that have up to the present been obtained by the new policy of colonial adventure. The Tonquin expedition has clearly brought to France neither military glory nor material advantages. The French sovereignty that has been acquired in Tonquin is certain to tax French resources heavily for its maintenance, and the prospect of practical compensations is, it is beginning to be acknowledged, illusory. It will be with difficulty that the country will be made to pay the cost of administration. The climate will not admit of the establishment of French settlements, and French trade will find its enterprise but scantily rewarded. The cost of the annexation of Tonquin has not yet been definitely ascertained. There is an intelligible reluctance on the part of the French Government to allow it

to be known how many lives of French soldiers and how many millions of French money have been squandered in this unfortunate enterprise. But enough is known to justify the vehement condemnation of M. JULES FERRY and the Ministry that was responsible for it. It is probable that at the coming General Election in France public opinion will pronounce so strongly against the rashness of foreign adventure that an absolute modification of French foreign and colonial policy will be enforced on whatever Ministry holds office. French action in Egypt, in Madagascar, and in the Pacific so intimately concerns English interests, that the revulsion of French opinion from the views that are identified with M. JULES FERRY's tenure of office requires to be signalised.

PATRIOTISM AND FACTION.

After a political crisis lasting for a fortnight, a Conservative Ministry is at length installed in office. But scant praise is due to Mr. GLADSTONE for any assistance he has offered to HER MAJESTY in removing the obstacles which have for so long deprived the country of a responsible Government at a critical juncture in its affairs. Mr. GLADSTONE'S attitude throughout has been that of the dog in the manger. Having thrown up the task of carrying on the QUEEN'S Government, he chose to obstruct the action of those who were prepared to undertake the work he had cast aside and had definitely refused to resume. The Redistribution Bill, which had all but become law, would, he knew, preclude resort being had to the Constitutional remedy of a Dissolution; and it was clearly impossible for a Ministry finding itself in a minority in the House of Commons to bring the necessary business of the Session to a close without the co-operation of the majority. The pledges for which Lord SALISBURY stipulated were in the highest degree reasonable; yet Mr. GLADSTONE persisted almost to the last in declining to offer more than the vaguest and most unsubstantial assurances, sheltering himself under the absurdly disingenuous plea that he could not sacrifice "the liberties of the House of Com-"mons." At last a declaration was extracted from Mr. GLADSTONE to the effect that there was "no idea of withholding the "ways and means required for the public "service." A promise of so shadowy a character, taken by itself, is worth little or nothing; and a certain amount of surprise was at first felt by the public that Lord SALISBURY should have accepted office without obtaining a more definite or specific pledge from the leader of the Radical Opposition.

Yet we think there are good and sufficient reasons, even on the surface, for the course which Lord SALISBURY has elected to take. In the first place, the whole matter has been laid bare before the country, and public opinion is in a position to form an exact estimate of the situation. The result of this alone will be that Lord SALISBURY will gain a considerable amount of moral support outside the walls of Parliament; and any attempt of the Radical party to offer obstruction to public business will certainly damage them in the eyes of the people. In the next place, the QUEEN'S opinion that Mr. GLADSTONE'S assurance might fairly be accepted is of immense weight. That which the SOVEREIGN holds to be a sufficient guarantee against factious proceedings will be viewed by the nation as offering a distinct undertaking to abstain from factious proceedings—a pledge to which public opinion will hold the Radical Leader. Lord SALISBURY has, moreover, another reason for undertaking the task of government. "I have received," he says, "from moderate men, who have no connection "with our party, assurances that they will "forward the smooth progress of affairs, and "enable us to carry on the business of the "country." That is a most important consideration; and it can hardly be doubted that both inside and outside the House of Commons there must be many moderate Liberals who will be prepared to accord a candid support to the Conservative Ministry. Many even of the men who have so often voted against their own consciences to keep Mr. GLADSTONE in office must be prepared to resume their freedom of action now that he has actually left power.

But there is one other fact which of itself is more than sufficient to justify Lord SALISBURY in assuming the reins of government even without the specific pledges which he demanded from Mr. GLADSTONE. That fact is simply that Mr. GLADSTONE has definitely refused to return to office. The somewhat mysterious allusion which the ex-Premier made on Wednesday to certain sentences in one of his communications to HER MAJESTY which he omitted to read, and which, he said, "related to himself," has been much canvassed. It is probable that they contained an intimation of his fixed determination not to reassume office on any terms. And this view is borne out by the following passage in Lord SALISBURY'S speech on Thursday:—"I felt that if I now de-"clined the responsibilites of office on behalf "of myself and my friends, I was compelling "HER MAJESTY to recur to new leaders and "to new combinations." This effectually settles the question of Mr. GLADSTONE'S refusal to carry on the Government, apart from anything that may have been stated by Lord SALISBURY at the meeting of the Conservative party held at the Carlton Club on Thursday. Mr. GLADSTONE'S confession of his inability to resume office will do more to strengthen the hands of the new Ministry than any other factor in the situation. It is now as clear as daylight that the Radical Cabinet fell to pieces from internal dissensions, and that the Radical party are too much divided to be able to undertake the conduct of public affairs. Hence Lord SALISBURY may well look for the support of moderate Liberals. Many of them have already proffered assurances of the kind, and Lord SALISBURY has good reason for his anticipation that the number of politicians who will of set purpose desire to embarrass the Government will not be large. It is a source of satisfaction to reflect that the Tory party has performed its duty. The contrast which Radical factiousness presents to the patriotic unselfishness of the Conservatives will not be lost upon the nation; and the new Ministry may fairly and confidently rely on the support of their countrymen.

THE OUTLOOK ABROAD.

It was not to be expected that Lord SALISBURY should find himself in a position to make any statement in the House of Lords on Thursday as to the policy of his Administration. The country is fully aware of the gravity of the situation in relation to foreign affairs. It was not only with reference to the Parliamentary position of the new Government that the PRIME MINISTER had good reason to observe that it is placed in circumstances probably more difficult than those in which any Government has acceded to office in recent times. Not even the greatest skill and courage can avail at once to unravel the tangled mass of complications which Ministers inherit from their predecessors. There is every reason to hope for an amelioration of a state of affairs which could hardly be worse, and with which the late Ministry have practically declared their utter inability to deal. But to change things permanently for the better is more than can be done in a day or in many days. The Conservative Government cannot suddenly reverse the policy of their predecessors; and even if that were possible, they cannot undo, as though it had never been, the evil wrought in the last five years.

Take the case of Egypt. Already, if the report which reaches us to-day from Alexandria be correct, Lord SALISBURY has informed Lord WOLSELEY that, while deeply sympathising with his views as to the withdrawal of our forces from the Soudan, the new Government is unable to continue the Soudan expedition. This, if true, furnishes only one sample of the kind of impossibility to which we allude, of instantly and entirely reversing a policy already in part carried out. Yet there is ground for hope that it will be in Egypt, if anywhere, that the beneficial effects of a change of Ministry in England will be felt. The publication of GORDON'S Diary on the very day when Mr. GLADSTONE relinquished the power he has so grievously misused should once more bring home to the British people a sense of the "indelible disgrace" in which the Radical Government involved us, and induce a determination to support Lord SALISBURY'S Government in taking whatever measures may be necessary for bringing order out of the Egyptian chaos. It is a good sign of the intentions of the new Ministry with respect to Egypt that Sir HENRY DRUMMOND WOLFF should have been already selected to go on a special mission to Cairo. Lord SALISBURY and his colleagues may, we are assured, be trusted to do all that can be done to rescue our position in Egypt from the perils which menace it on every side. But the English people must be made to understand quite thoroughly that not even the wisest and best-intentioned statesmen could effect what is required unless they were to receive the ungrudging support of the people themselves. During the next few months the new Administration will labour assiduously to replace on the footing from which it ought never to have been removed the prestige and the influence of this country in Egypt. They will firmly though without bluster, uphold British predominance on the Nile; they will take up in right good earnest the task of reforming the Egyptian administration; they will offer strenuous opposition to any attempt hostile to British interests in the Suez Canal. Above all, as the best means for furthering these ends, they will cultivate the friendly alliance of the German Powers, who have been alienated from us by Mr. GLADSTONE'S policy. It remains to be seen whether an English alliance will suit the purposes of the German Powers, who have in regard for their own interests been compelled to enter into other combinations. But even with all the goodwill imaginable towards England, and with all the confidence they may repose in the Conservative Administration, it will be necessary for the German Powers to feel assured that Lord SALISBURY'S Government possesses the confidence of the country.

The same considerations apply also to the still pressing question of the Afghan frontier. If Russia is led to believe that the English people is not faithfully represented by the new Ministry; if she is encouraged by the factiousness of the Radical Opposition in the idea that in a few months Lord SALISBURY'S Government will have to make way for another squeezable and imbecile Ministry similar to the last; and if the country allows the new Administration to be thus hampered and checked at every step, it will have only itself to thank for the consequences. The nation has before it a very heavy responsibility. The greatness of the British Empire is, as it were, trembling in the balance. A chance occurs now of perhaps tiding over our present troubles, and of inaugurating a new era in which British credit and British power will be established and maintained. But it seems to us that it is the last chance, and that if it is neglected, it cannot recur.

MINISTERIAL PROSPECTS.

The new Ministry are now installed in office. They have accepted it, as Lord SALISBURY has said, under circumstances to which our political history affords no parallel. The present is not an instance of a Government (which, as Sir CHARLES DILKE said, was a not unprecedented case) having already been allowed to dissolve Parliament, and not having obtained a majority. When a Government has returned to office in such circumstances, owing to divisions of opponents, or the smallness of the majority which it could command, it still has had always the obvious alternative of making way for others whom the existing Parliament had not always ejected. Such a Ministry would be precluded from again dissolving, because the country had been recently appealed to, and because its decision had been given. In the present instance Parliament is more than five years old. In any other circumstances than those created by the extension of the franchise in counties and the redistribution of seats, the defeat of Mr. GLADSTONE would have been followed by Dissolution. It might have been at his own instance, or, if he preferred to resign office, certainly at that of his successors. But the effect of the Seats Bill is to prevent any appeal at present either to the old or new constituencies. What the Conservatives were anxious for last year was to prevent the possibility of an election under the new franchise in the old electoral circumscriptions.

An appeal to the old constituencies under the old franchise would no doubt have been extremely inconvenient when in a few months both were to pass away. But had it been legally possible, it might have been the only resort in certain extreme contingencies—contingencies which could only have arisen from the action of the Liberals in Opposition. It was on this account, but certainly with no desire of causing the failure of the Bill agreed on by both parties, that Lord SALISBURY persuaded the House of Lords to delay for a few days the consideration of the amendments objected to by the House of Commons, which have since been abandoned by agreement in order to facilitate the passing of the measure into law. As things are, there is no possibility before November, at the earliest, of any appeal to the judgment of the electors of England either as to the conduct of the late Cabinet or the action of the existing House of Commons. It is understood that the leaders of the Liberal party are generally bound to offer no vexatious opposition to such financial and other measures as it is absolutely necessary should be brought forward before such an appeal can be made. It is, of course, in their power, if their followers are united, to place the Government in a minority of one hundred or more on any question on which they may raise a party issue. But under the exceptional condition of things created by the postponement of the power of dissolution, such defeats might be disregarded. It would, no doubt, be imprudent to court them unnecessarily by bringing forward contentious questions in the present Parliament. But, except so far as they prevented necessary business from being carried on, they would in no way affect the position of Ministers, who have to wind up the affairs of the present Session as speedily as possible. They would only be a portion of the whole issue on which the country will have to judge.

It has been reported that the new Ministry would carry through the measures in progress on such large questions as Education in Ireland and Intermediate Education in Wales. We have referred to these matters before. Both these questions, the former especially, bristle with difficulties. They involve many fair points of controversy, which would make it, in any case, difficult to pass them through both Houses at this period of the Session. But the Irish Bill is, besides, almost certain to be attacked on all points by the followers of Mr. PARNELL, if only to show their power. That party, no doubt, would not wish to bring back immediately to office those in whose downfall they triumphed. But it cannot be supposed that they will maintain any other attitude than their settled air of hostility to all government in Ireland carried on through the existing legislative or administrative machinery. Sir CHARLES DILKE'S suggestions about local self-government in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland alike, his avowed intention of visiting Ireland to make investigations which might be a pretext for conversion to Home Rule, may have some effect upon them. He has adopted their view already as to the abolition of the Lord Lieutenancy and of the official centre in Dublin Castle—a view which, with not very intelligible logic, he identifies with decentralisation.

There appears some anxiety to know what course the new Cabinet will take as to the Crimes Act for Ireland. It may be freely allowed that till Lord CARNARVON and Sir WILLIAM DYKE have had time to master the official information which will be at their command no declaration on this subject can reasonably be expected. But the duty of the Conservative Ministry is clear, and from this duty they cannot shrink except at a sacrifice of principle and honesty that would involve the loss of the confidence of the Conservative classes throughout the country. The views that have been maintained in Opposition must be carried out in office. The powers necessary for the maintenance of law and order in Ireland must be renewed. The inclusion of the Crimes Act in the Expiring Acts Continuance Bill is the readiest means for obviating the difficulty of passing any new measure at this late period of the session. Even if Mr. PARNELL, assisted by the English Radicals, were to succeed in defeating the renewal of the Crimes Bill, their triumph would be short-lived. The outburst of crime which too probably would result from it would, as has happened, so to speak, in recurring cycles, provoke the enactment of far more severe coercive measures. If the action of any English party was clearly responsible for defeating the measures which would have repressed it, the retribution upon that party would be severe. If Mr. CHAMBERLAIN or Sir CHARLES DILKE, at liberty to lift their voices for freedom and justice, were to let loose disorder in Ireland between this and November, the wing of their party which they direct would probably be shattered to pieces at the elections to which they so confidently look forward.

We are told that the Liberal agents, who, according to Sir CHARLES DILKE, have never been at fault, are confident of sweeping the agricultural counties from one end of England to the other. Lord SALISBURY has given some shrewd advice against assuming the part of a prophet on politics. It may be well doubted if any of those who are best acquainted with the hitherto existing constituencies have really much knowledge of that hitherto unknown quantity, the rural labourer's political bias. Newly introduced to political action, it is probable that a large portion of the class scarcely know themselves how far they sympathise with either party. A certain number, no doubt, may be ready to follow any itinerant orator who will promise them a piece of land all round or doubled wages and cheapness of everything. Others, again, may, without any very definite political opinions, be ready to follow those whom they are accustomed to look up to in their immediate neighbourhood

It can hardly be supposed that an increased duty on beer will especially conciliate the favour of the agricultural labourer to the party who attempted to impose it. Some of them, too, may be able to see that a heavy succession duty, or any other of the burdens which the Radical party delight to heap upon the owners of land, is really a tax upon the resources for improvement, an impediment to the building of cottages, the support of village charities, and every other object for which the cottagers look to the landed gentry. Those who dwell on the outskirts of wastes, and are often proprietors of a few acres of land, if they have heard of the Radical scheme for the restitution of all land taken from commons, may see that it would hit them more hardly than their wealthier neighbours whom it was intended to injure. If these matters are not properly brought under their notice it will be the fault of those who conduct the campaign for the Conservative party in rural districts. In the large towns, on the other hand, we may expect that a considerable body of Conservativism may make itself felt in single districts which have hitherto been lost in the mass of Radical votes throughout the undivided constituency. In Marylebone, in Finsbury, in Lambeth, in Hackney, Conservative minorities equalling in number many moderate-sized constituencies added together, have been unable to carry either of the two seats for their borough. In all these districts it may be expected that a portion of the increased representation will be secured by those whose struggles have hitherto been ineffectual, and that the parishes and divisions hitherto tacked to others who overbore them by numbers will be able for the first time to make the voice of their Conservative electors heard in Parliament. The effect of recent changes on parties, as well as on national interests at large, must be a matter of uncertain conjecture. But the present Parliament is one that we part from without regret. The change of Ministry will probably have the effect of stopping for the present several mischievous attempts at legislation. And, although hampered by the uncertainty of their position, the Conservatives may, during the next four months, do something to show that our affairs at home and abroad are in better hands, and, even if they are eventually compelled to retire, hand over to their successors a better heritage than that which they have just received.

RADICALISM IN THE PULPIT.

We are not surprised to learn from the *Kentish Gazette* that considerable stir has been caused at Canterbury by a certain sermon recently preached at the Cathedral by one of the Canons, Mr. Fremantle, in which he took the opportunity of denouncing war as a thing which should be "arraigned before God and "the consciences of men as that which we "must learn to hate, to combat, and to extir-"pate." So far, so good; but Mr. Fremantle next proceeded to observe that the country has just escaped from a state of things which seemed to be rapidly leading to war, and added that, "but for great firmness and forbearance on the "part of some in authority—a forbearance "which has been treated with most un-Chris-"tian ridicule, and with taunts which sought "to arouse the worst feelings of human nature "—we should at this moment be plunged in a "vast and portentous war." We fully and entirely agree with Mr. Fremantte in his horror and detestation of war; but that is precisely the reason why we think his praise of "some in authority"—by which he means, we presume, Mr. Gladstone and his late colleagues—is singularly misplaced. The late Government is directly responsible for an amount of bloodshed which it is simply revolting to contemplate. The taking of human life is at all times shocking enough; but when the lives of thousands of brave men are sacrificed for absolutely no object whatever, and squandered out of the merest and most unblushing wantonness, the case is infinitely worse. Mr. Fremantle has forcibly and eloquently described some of the worst horrors of war. The picture which he has so vividly drawn is one that may be commended to Mr. Gladstone for his candid and remorseful contemplation during the interval of comparative leisure which his retirement from office has now placed at his disposal.

We observe that Mr. Fremantle chose as the text of his discourse the following words from the Epistle of St. James:—"From "whence come wars and fighting among you? "Come they not hence, even of your lusts, "which war in your members?' But Mr. Fremantle does not appear to us to have grasped what is certainly one of the most obvious conclusions to be drawn from St. James's language. Human nature being such as the Apostle declares it to be, it is not a sufficient safeguard for the peace of a nation that it should itself abstain from that lust of conquest from which wars have their origin. If it takes two to make a quarrel, it also takes two to preserve peace. The most peace-loving community in the world is exposed to the horrors of war so long as an aggressive spirit animates its neighbours, and unless it is determined to enforce peace by being fully prepared for possible war. To rest in contentment with our own peace-loving inclinations, and to neglect the means of defence against aggression, is the one sure and certain way of promoting the "wars and fighting" among men, which come of the "lust" of ambition. And this is the very consideration to which our modern Radicals, whom Mr. Fremantle admires so much, have been wilfully and obstinately blind. Through their neglect to strengthen the Empire, not only by means of armaments, but by pursuing the foreign policy which our interests demanded, they have caused an unknown amount of misery to thousands upon thousands of innocent people, as well as imperilled the lives and happiness of thousands more. Mr. Fremantle knows this perfectly well. He knows equally well that "the great firmness "and forbearance" of Mr. Gladstone and Lord Granville on the Afghan question have, so far from averting war, only too probably laid up a store of trouble for the people of India in days to come. If Mr. Fremantle's intention is simply to enforce the blessings of peace, his utterances are vain and empty platitudes, because both by inclination and interest the British nation is the most peaceable in the world. If Mr. Fremantle's object is to deprecate the adoption of national safeguards against war, he is talking abject nonsense, and very mischievous nonsense too.

We do not deny that the Radicalism which possesses such charms for Mr. Fremantle has a great and glorious future before it. It has already nearly ruined the Empire abroad, and it may not improbably succeed in inflicting inconceivable damage upon the country at home. It may overthrow our Constitution in Church and State, promote Atheism, extinguish individual liberty, set up the tyranny of State Socialism, sow dissension between class and class, kill our agriculture, and stifle our trade. It may fairly claim credit for this magnificent programme. But there is one thing which our Radical friends must not do. They must not attempt to figure any more as the Moral Party. Their efforts in this direction have for some years been pushed with the most brazen effrontery, and with a certain amount of success. But everything has an end, and even this vast hypocrisy is played out at last. Mr. Fremantle's laudation of the most wickedly blood-guilty of Governments for their "firmness and "forbearance" in giving us peace would have excited derision if it had been uttered anywhere; but proceeding from the pulpit of the Metropolitan Cathedral, it has naturally aroused indignation and disgust as well.

It is with sincere regret that we feel compelled to express our entire and profound dissent from the decision arrived at by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in reply to applications from clergymen for advice as to allowing their schoolrooms to be used for political meetings. Their Graces are of opinion that the rooms should either be refused to both political parties, or granted for the use of either party impartially. Impartiality is sometimes a great virtue; but there are occasions when it is the reverse. To be impartial between truth and error can be no man's duty. If there is no such thing as right or wrong in politics; if the Christian Church has nothing to say upon a contest between Religion and Atheism, Order and Licence; if it is no part of her functions to warn men against doctrines of spoliation and fraud; if she is an uninterested spectator of attempts to legislate upon the marriage question; if she is indifferent to the conspiracy to eliminate Religion from the education of the young; then we can concur with the Archbishops' views, but not otherwise. To lend Church schoolrooms for Radical meetings seems to us both wrong and foolish. There is no reciprocity in the matter. The Dissenting meeting-houses or schools will not be offered to Conservatives. Of that we may be quite sure. Nor, on the other hand, are we able to conceive how it can be the duty of the clergy to preserve an attitude of neutrality. The fact that the Church herself is the object of Radical attack and of Conservative defence ought of itself to decide the question.

Reviews.

GORDON'S DIARY.*

There is probably no book of the last half century the appearance of which has been awaited with more impatient interest than the Diary which the lamented General Gordon left during part of the time which he spent imprisoned at Khartoum. We venture to say that no one of the eager watchers for this record will be disappointed. Political capital it is, and it must needs be. But let us for the moment leave this aspect of the book in the background and turn to it simply and solely to see the man as he was, and as he lived, that solitary Englishman in Khartoum. This volume tells, in some four hundred pages, the story of some ninety-six lonely days, from September 10 to December 14, 1884. For, seemingly, Gordon had no one to whom he cared to speak, unless it were Hansall, the Austrian Consul. Much of his time was spent every day at his desk, writing on the telegraph forms which have happily been saved to us. There he sat, chronicling every scrap of news, true or false, which came in from without, and recording every thought which passed in his mind with the fidelity of a mirror. Thus it is that these pages give a picture of the life he lived, which is truth, and nothing else. The writer was not thinking of the guise in which he was to appear before the English-reading public. He was simply delineating with graphic minuteness each long day at Khartoum as it slowly fulfilled itself. The Diary then gives striking examples of the varying phases of its writer's mind. On one page we find scathing denunciations of the Foreign Office or the Army Medical Department; on another a playful picture of Tommy Atkins struggling with the "ship of the desert" or of a fancied scene at the United Service Club some evening about 6.30 p.m. Then, again, the writer is discovered suffering acutely from the nervous tension of his long-continued imprisonment, or he shows himself impatient at the absence of news and the shortcomings of the Intelligence Department. Now he is worried by the apathy of his servants, now again by his troublesome *quasi*-allies the Shaggyeh tribe, creatures for whom he has to send down ten barges one night at 10 p.m. He ruthlessly bares himself and his inmost heart to the world, and the next, if not the present, generation will thank the dead man for his frank candour.

Patience and Truth, if one must choose among the virtues, seem to have been the watchwords of the besieged at Khartoum. Patience in his own household was an easy task. "What with these "people's prayers, eating, and sleeping, one's "patience is indeed tried."

If these Arabs (one's servants) are not *eating*, they are *saying their prayers*; if not *saying their prayers*, they are *sleeping*; if not *sleeping*, they are *sick*. One snatches at them at intervals. Now figure to yourself the position; you cannot do anything with them while in these fortresses, *eating*, *saying prayers*, *sleeping*, or *sick*, and they know it. You would be a brute if you did (which I fear I often am). You want to send an immediate order, an i there is your servant bobbing up and down, and you cannot disturb him. It is a beautiful country for trying experiments with your patience. It is very curious, but if I am in a bad temper, which I fear is often the case, my servants will be always at their prayers, and their religious practices follow the state of my temper; they are pagans if all goes well.

It is the same with the officials. Towards the end of November, Gordon writes:—

We have now been months blockaded, and things are critical; yet not one of my subordinates, except the chief clerk and his subordinate appears to-day. I had to send for them, and wait till they came, perhaps an hour. "It is Friday, and it is unreasonable to expect us at the office." My patience is almost exhausted with this continuous, apparently never-ending trial; there is not one department which I have not to superintend as closely as if I was its direct head. . . . Nearly every order, except when it is for their interest, has to be repeated two, and even three, times. I may truly say, I am weary of my life; day and night, night and day, it is one continual worry.

Such a thing as a "standing order" is unknown in that land, at any rate under any Egyptian Administration.

If you give an order it is totally inefficient in three days' time if not repeated again and again at intervals; it seems as if its essence evaporated in the heat of these countries. The officers would laugh you to scorn if you said "Why, I gave a *standing order* respecting this or that."

Take, again, Gordon's ideal of truth. Perhaps it is nowhere better brought out than when he is speaking of Slatin Bey, the former Governor of Darfour, who had joined the Mahdi, and by him been placed in command of the formidable Kordofan cavalry. Slatin, of course, knew Gordon, and was anxious to come into Khartoum, and to Gordon he would have been invaluable. Such men as he was, and Romulus Gessi had been, were Gordon's great desideratum. But no.

I shall have nothing to do with Slatin's coming in here to stay, unless he has the Mahdi's positive leave, which he is not likely to get; his doing so would be the breaking of his parole, which should be as sacred when given to the Mahdi as to any other Power.

Compare this for a moment with the canvas on which Gordon vividly describes the character of many with whom he had to do. Some heads of families had gone over to the Arabs (the writer has always a qualm in speaking of the adherents of the Mahdi as rebels, feeling perhaps that the cause which he represented was better entitled to the name), but the adherents of these "notables" had not gone over, and were in Khartoum. A question then arose, to whom were these dependants to belong? To the chiefs to whom they had been affiliated when their masters went? Or to the masters who had now come back, and claimed what they considered their property? Gordon decided to ask each man his desire.

Will you go with A. or B.? The men came in at the door, and after having elected, they went out of the window, for there were not two doors; they elected as they wished, and went out of the window. Some came in and thought that all that was required of them was to come in at the door, and go out of the window as quickly as possible without answering! I do love to study mankind; he is far better than any landscape. These fellows knew well enough I was going to put their decision on them, and tried to avoid giving any, as to with whom they would go. It was somewhat of a gymnastic process for them to go out of the window, and they made a good mess of it; but if I had let them go out of the door by which they had entered, inextricable confusion would have occurred. As it was, we had resurrections at the door of those who had departed by the window, which caused some bother. The two rival chiefs were present, and one's object was to prevent the elector looking at either while he elected; sometimes it was necessary to secure that the pug-face was fairly on the clerk, the electing officer, who asked the question, A. or B. I will back the eye for knowledge more than any other organ. A man who does not look you in the face in answering is 99 times in 100 a liar.

Turning now to the strong terms in which Gordon speaks of "the powers that be," he has, naturally enough, plenty of blame ready to mete out to them. Now it is the Foreign Office.

I must say I do not love Diplomatists as a rule (and I can fancy the turning up of noses at my venturing to express an opinion of them)—I mean in their official attire, for, personally, the few I know are most agreeable (and I specially except Alston, the chief clerk, and Weller, the hall-porter, who has of late years become quite amiable); but taking them on their rostrums, with their satellites, from their chiefs down to the smaller fry, no one can imagine a more unsatisfactory lot of men to have anything to do with. I have seen . . ., . . ., . . ., at different times, and when one left their august presences, one marvelled at the policy of Great Britain being in such hands. Lord Hammond was a Tartar, and one knew he was to be respected.

But these trenchant words must be read in connection with the apology, which is to be found a few pages further on, where Gordon owns that

It is not right to scoff at one's superiors, but I do not do it in malice, and I hope those who are remarked upon will not be offended. Life is a very leaden business, and if anyone can lighten it, so much the better. Because I criticise Baring, Egerton, and the Foreign Office, it is not that I think I am their superior, but because I would like them to see how others, outside themselves, view things. Because I may differ with them, it is no reason why they may not be right, and acting uprightly, and I may be utterly wrong. I am sure the "Siren" Malet is conscientiously sure that all he did in Egypt was right; if visited in Brussels one will see, at a glance, he is plainly content.

Now it is Sir Evelyn Baring's turn. But the sketch which is the essence of the criticism on that eminent diplomatist cannot be reproduced here. Then again the diarist turns, with grim humour, to depict an imaginary scene in the desert: Explorations in Central Africa, by Her Majesty's Army—*loquitur* Mr. Thomas Atkins:—

"See-saw, see-saw, why it is enough to kill a fellow. I can't keep my eyes open. I would give a shilling to have an hour's sleep! *Yes*, of course, you say it is close at hand, *you black devil!*" "I know your *Kareb* means at least three hours more." "Give you the water-bottle? I can't. I don't dare to touch the rope of this long-necked brute. Hullo! there is someone come a cropper. Rifle, 'broken,' of course it is, you cannot fall from a precipice without its being broken." "Hi! Stop! Catch hold of the brute; the machufat, as you call it, is slipping round. Can't you stop the brute (noise of a body falling)? Well, there's an end of it. I will walk *now* sooner than embark again on the ship of the desert. Am I hurt? Oh, no, of course not; rather enjoyed sensation." Walks half a mile, boots full of sand, and tries it again.

Or, again, there is the scene in the House of Lords as it presented itself to the mind of the lonely outcast from civilisation.

The noble Lord has given a great deal of time and attention to the affairs of the Soudan, but he frankly acknowledges that the names of places and people were so mixed up, that it was impossible to get a true view of the case. (A laugh.)

But we must forbear to quote more of the telling strokes which Gordon deals broadcast. In his disquisitions *de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*, we may be sure that he does not forget his own profession, on which he has much to say:—

Certainly I would have Plutarch's *Lives*, a handbook for our young officers; it is worth any number of *Arts of War* or *Minor Tactics*. Some accounts in the *Gazette* describing reasons for giving the Victoria Cross are really astounding—such as a man who, with another, was sent out on a reconnaissance; this other was wounded, and his companion waited for him, and took him on his horse, saving his life. What would we have said had he left his companion? Lots of these cases pass by unheeded, which, if read by Plutarch's *Lives*, would be simply a man's duty. A soldier is bound entirely to his work as a soldier, he can never do more than his duty, and his *métier* is the field; therefore, he deserves nothing, for he is already paid for that *métier*, and not for garrison or home life. The original idea of the Victoria Cross was to give the subaltern officers, non-commissioned officers, and men a decoration which would take the place of the Bath to ranks below that of major, which by the statutes of the Bath could not be done; then came the mistake to give the Victoria Cross for deeds of *éclat*, and so now it is. I like that old Iron Duke with his fearful temper: he told a friend of my father, who was bewailing his long and meritorious service, "That he ought to be —— glad the country had kept him so long." I wish Wolseley would take up this line, and get some Quixotic chivalry into us; that is possible, I feel sure, for we are the same men as before. In three campaigns out of four of late years, no officer or soldier has gone through such privations or dangers as are gone through by our naval officers and sailors in gunboats in various parts of the world, yet these latter would be scoffed at if they pleaded their privations in order to get reward. A man defends a post, if he loses it his throat is cut; why give him a Victoria Cross? and if given, why not give it to all who were with him? they equally with him defended their throats. The men I should like to see cross-questioned on the country they are in are our Generals, whose whole time is taken up with their officers, with court-martials, &c., &c., an occasional day being devoted to moving men about in formations which are never put into execution in the field! The *métier* of the general is the field, not

* *The Journals of Major-General C. G. Gordon, C.B., at Khartoum.* Printed from the original MSS. Introduction and Notes by A. Egmont Hake, Author of *The Story of Chinese Gordon*, &c. With portrait, two maps, and thirty illustrations, after sketches by General Gordon.—London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co., 1885.

the office; it is as if all their time is to be taken up with the horse in the stable, not in the country, whereas the latter is most important. I should like to see Wolseley trot out the generals over their districts; ask them their routes, their proposed distribution of men in case of attack, and water-supply to forts. I do not think it is generally known that if a gunboat cut the seawall near Cooling on Thames, the Shornemead Forts are cut off from main land, and that the Thames would come up to high lands, and be ten miles wide. There is one man only that I know who has the gift of questioning, because he knows every part of the coast—Sir W. Jervois; and, if Wolseley has not the time, he would do schoolmaster. Of course, this is all fearful treason and presumption.

The writer's conception of a soldier's calling is, perhaps, best summed up in the few words which England is supposed to address to a mititary officer:—

You must remember (says England) that when you entered my service I bought you, as far as your body was concerned, giving you at first 5s. 3d. a day, when no one else would have given you 1s., giving you also a beautiful plumage and the *entrée partout*. You have advanced now to higher pay, but on *same terms* (your whole life and body). You can never say that you have done *more* than your duty. If you do not do it you break your word, and if you do it you merely fulfil your contract and have no *claim* on me.

The burden is this: should one die, why, when one entered the army one sold one's life for so much a day. It is interesting to find in this connection what may be called a calculation of the fallacy involved in "Every bullet has its "billet." There is an estimate (p. 73) that the besieged had fired away three million Remington cartridges between March 12 and September 22, "and I expect the Arabs lost perhaps a thousand "in all. Each Arab killed needed three thou- "sand cartridges." The moral is partly the same as that of the curious incident noted on September 26:—

I mentioned that we lost three killed and eight wounded; *now, mark this*—on the way down the steamers met three escaped soldiers from the Arabs; they took them on board, and, odd to say, of those killed and wounded, were these three men, two having been killed, and the third badly wounded! This is remarkable. If we could believe it, *we are as safe in the fiercest battle as in a drawing-room* in London.

What Gordon's position was is well known. "If ever there was a happy-go-lucky Government, "it is this in Khartoum." He puts the Soudan question in his own terse way again and again; but never perhaps better than on p. 238:—

I am only discussing how *to get out of* the Soudan in *honour and in the cheapest way* (we must remember we caused its troubles), and that way is, either by some sort of provisional Government under Zubair, or by giving it to the Turks; it is simply a question of GETTING OUT OF IT with decency. Zubair would square the Shaggyeh and townspeople and arrange with the Mahdi, and you could get away. He might hold his own if you gave the Mahdi a good defeat ere you left; at any rate it is only by Zubair or the Turks you will get out of the Soudan before November, 1885!!!!! The Turks are the best solution, though most expensive. *They would keep the Soudan:* give them £2,000,000. The next best is Zubair with £500,000, with £100,000 a year for two years; he will keep the Soudan *for a time*. (In both cases slave trade will flourish.) Thus you will be quiet in Egypt, and will be able to *retreat to Egypt in January*, 1885. *If you do not do this*, then be prepared for a *deal of worry and danger*, and your campaign will be *entirely unprofitable and devoid of prestige*, for the day after you leave Khartoum the Mahdi will walk in and say he drove you out, which is not pleasant in India or elsewhere.

These words have already proved to be prophetic. Equally so is the constantly recurring thought that the relief would come "too late" after all.

It is, of course, on the cards that Khartoum is taken under the nose of the expeditionary force, which will be *just too late*.

Again:—

If they do not come before November 30 the game is up, and Rule Britannia.

If all should go well, his dreamland is the Congo.

It is one of my joys that I never have to see Great Britain again. I hope to get out of this affair, and either go to the Congo *viâ* Equatorial Province or by Brussels. At any rate, I shall never have to undergo the worries I underwent during the week I was in England this year. I say this in order that those who may have to do with me may know how very determined a man's will must be who does not wish (and indeed *will not ever*) go back to England again, and to whom continuance in Her Majesty's service, except for the honour of it, is a matter of indifference.

But these were castles in Spain. The stern reality was soon upon him. And then his cry is for a single redcoat only, to show his people that his promises of succour coming have not been altogether vain. "Send me two hundred, one "hundred, men," he asked in December, 1884, just as he asked in the opening months of this year for two hundred men to clear the road to Berber. The prayers fell on deaf ears.

The traitor was in the camp all the time. Incidentally his name occurs now and again in these pages. On October 10 Gordon "armed the "men of the band and made them bodyguard of "Ferratch Pasha." The very next day the man was made a Ferile (General of Division). On the 14th he becomes a Miralli. On the 18th he is nominated to do the honours of the New Year's Day of the Arab year 1302, which is on the 21st. On November 18 the diarist writes:—

I will say Ferratch Pasha (however irritating in some ways) is always the gentleman, which I am sorry to say *I am not*, with the fury I get in on state occasions.

Again, on the last day but one of the record—

Ferratch Pasha is really showing an amount of vigour I did not give him credit for.

And on the opposite page one reads the final words which, it may be, England will hear from the great man she has lost:—

NOW MARK THIS: if the expeditionary force, and I ask for no more than two hundred men, does not come in ten days *the town may fall*; and I have done my best for the honour of our country. Good-bye.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.*

[FIRST NOTICE.]

No more fitting occasion could be chosen for passing in review the public career of a British statesman than the moment when he attains the highest point of his political ambition and is entrusted by his Sovereign with the supreme direction of the affairs of the Empire. Mr. Pulling is eminently fortunate in being able to send his book into the world in the selfsame week which has witnessed the elevation of Lord Salisbury to the Prime Ministership of England; and it is hardly an exaggeration to say that Lord Salisbury is also fortunate in securing so capable and so appreciative a biographer as Mr. Pulling.

The contents of the present volumes may be summed up as the political history of England for the last thirty years, with Lord Salisbury as the hero of the story. It is a fault common to histories written with the special object of bringing out into prominence the career of a single individual that they should exhibit a somewhat deficient sense of proportion. And it must be acknowledged that a student of Mr. Pulling's book who happened to be previously unacquainted with the history of the period which it covers might be led to suppose that Lord Salisbury has occupied an even more prominent place on the political stage than has actually been the case. Still, it is one of Mr. Pulling's conspicuous merits that he defines with great clearness, and in the main with singular accuracy, Lord Salisbury's true relation towards the great political questions of our time. We are shown, from the direct evidence of Lord Salisbury's public utterances, what are the tenets of his political creed, and what are the practical conclusions which he deduces from them.

Many—ourselves among the number—would have welcomed the publication of a series of Lord Salisbury's principal speeches, in an unabbreviated shape, with just so much of an introduction to each as might be necessary to explain the circumstances under which it was delivered. But we take it that the object which Mr. Pulling has in view is better served by the form in which he has cast his book. His purpose is to present in a concise manner the facts that vindicate Lord Salisbury's claims to public confidence, and to elucidate the convictions and the policy with which the Tory leader enters upon the task of governing the country. It would have been outside the necessary limits of a work of this kind to have printed many of the speeches *verbatim*; and, in fact, only two of them are here given as they were actually spoken, without curtailment—one delivered last autumn at Cannon-street on the Reform agitation; the other in February on the Vote of Censure brought against the Government for their treatment of Gordon. From several of Lord Salisbury's other speeches copious extracts are given, and Mr. Pulling's selections are made with great judgment and discretion. The narrative portion of the work is, as might have been anticipated, well and skilfully executed, although with regard to some of the matters treated of it is open to question whether their connection with the life of Lord Salisbury is always quite obvious. Writing as a strong admirer of Lord Salisbury's genius and character, Mr. Pulling does not permit his bias to distort his statements of the facts. And when we add that his style is particularly lucid and vigorous, and that his volumes are of a handy size and exceedingly well printed in large clear type, it may readily be inferred that they are as easy and pleasant reading as the information they contain is certainly both interesting and valuable.

The author renders good service in correcting the misrepresentations of Lord Salisbury's critics. The difference of opinion between Mr. Disraeli and Lord Cranborne (as he then was) on the Reform question in 1867 has been made much of by Radical writers. The matter is dealt with by Mr. Pulling in a passage which affords a good specimen of his literary method. Here is the very interesting comparison which he draws between the respective attitudes of Mr. Disraeli and Lord Cranborne towards the Reform question at the period alluded to:—

The fact was that Mr. Disraeli and Lord Cranborne differed entirely as to the mode of procedure which a Conservative Government ought to adopt under the circumstances. While agreeing as to the advisability of getting the Reform question settled, the former held that the House of Commons must guide the Government on all matters of detail; the latter considered that a Conservative Ministry ought not to allow itself to be dictated to by a Liberal majority. Much can be said for both these views. Those who believe that a Minister should adapt his policy to the exigencies of the time will naturally support Mr. Disraeli's contention, while others who deem consistency to be the highest of political virtues will applaud Lord Cranborne's determination. The one side will plead the necessity of a wise adaptability to circumstances, while the other will lay stress upon the maintenance of principle. It has been argued that the difference between the two statesmen was moral and psychological, rather than political. For ourselves, we are inclined to think that the dissimilarity of views arose more from a disparity of age than any other cause. Mr. Disraeli's experience had taught him the paramount necessity, in the interests alike of his party and his country, of settling the question of Reform immediately, and not allowing another season of riot and agitation to afflict England. His experience had shown him that, however firmly rooted the principles of a statesman or of a party may be, the application of those principles must be varied by circumstances. He had experienced the evils of a prolonged resistance to popular demands, and he had perceived the factitious advantage which the Liberal party had obtained by their supposed monopoly of a desire for popular liberties. Lord Cranborne, on the other hand, a generation younger in point of age, and comparatively new to political, certainly to official, life, was inclined to regard public questions too much perhaps in their theoretical aspect; he was impressed by the essential distinction which exists between the two great parties in the State. He was fearful lest by assenting to a large transference of political power, the Conservative party might be signing its own death-warrant. He had taken perhaps too much in earnest the wild talk and extravagant resolutions of obscure agitators, and dreaded placing political power in the hands of those who might be misled by noisy demagogues and place-hunting politicians.

Mr. Pulling successfully defends Lord Salisbury from the unwarrantable charge brought against him in Mr. Justin M'Carthy's much overrated book, *The History of Our Own Time*, of having used insulting language of Mr. Gladstone in the debates on the repeal of the Paper Duties in 1861. Mr. Gladstone had had recourse to the novel device of comprising the whole of the Budget in one Bill, in order to force the House of Lords to accept his proposal on the Paper Duties. Lord Robert Cecil vigorously protested against this procedure, by which it was proposed to vary the practice of half a century "for a special political "object, to avenge a special political defeat, and "to gain the doubtful votes of a special political "section," though Mr. Gladstone had the audacity to declare that he was merely adhering to the ordinary routine of financial proceeding. Lord Robert Cecil strongly stigmatised such conduct as "worthy rather of an attorney than of a states- "man." On a subsequent occasion he acknowledged, however, that he had "done great "injustice to the attorneys, who were a very "honourable set of men, while the conduct of the "Government was distinguished by legal chi- "canery." As Mr. Pulling remarks, "the expres- "sions made use of by Lord Robert Cecil were "not one whit stronger than the circumstances "demanded; while the apology he made to the "legal profession for the unjust slur he had cast "upon them by comparing the sharp practice of Mr. "Gladstone to that of an attorney, was certainly "sincerely meant and thoroughly justified."

Another matter, the significance of which has been much exaggerated, was the difference of opinion between Mr. Disraeli and Lord Salisbury with reference to the unhappy Public Worship Regulation Act. The Prime Minister's public criticism of the Indian Secretary's arguments against the Bill was certainly couched in rather strong terms; and he must himself have felt that his bantering reference to his colleague as "a great master of "gibes and flouts and jeers" was not to be justified, for we believe that it is the fact—though Mr. Pulling omits to mention it—that Mr. Disraeli immediately after the debate wrote a letter of apology to Lord Salisbury, which was sent so promptly that it reached its recipient before he had had time to hear of the speech itself.

There is one important point as to which we much regret that Mr. Pulling has omitted to place on record a vindication of Lord Salisbury. The Conservative leader's opponents are never tired of alluding to the so-called "secret treaty" which he concluded with Russia previous to the Berlin Congress of 1878, and to his alleged want of candour in denying the authenticity of a document purporting to contain its provisions. We have, in this journal, on several occasions endeavoured to set the matter in its proper light. There are two questions involved in the accusation brought against Lord Salisbury—first, whether the Anglo-Russian Agreement can be justified; and secondly, whether Lord Salisbury rightly described the published version of it as "unau- "thentic." As regards the first point, everybody who is acquainted with the usages of diplomacy knows perfectly well that, before any general Conference or Congress of the European Powers is held, it is the constant practice for the parties who are primarily interested to come to some kind of preliminary understanding as to the main points at issue. The object is to clear the ground by elucidating the points upon which agreement is practicable, and thus to form a basis for the ultimate negotiations. That is all that was done in the case of this so-called "secret treaty," and the criticisms to which Lord Salisbury was subjected proceeded from men who were fully aware of the facts we have stated, but were determined to make political capital out of an incident which so readily lent itself to their unworthy purpose of discrediting the Conservative Foreign Secretary.

As to the particular version of the Anglo-Russian Agreement which was given to the public through the medium of a clerk who was believed to have stolen the paper from the Foreign Office, nothing could be more exactly accurate than Lord Salisbury's description of it as "unauthentic." It differed from the real Agreement in several particulars, and in one most important one. The spurious document conceded to Russian demands the formation of what was called "the greater "Bulgaria," extending to Salonica, Adrianople, and the Adriatic; whereas the real Agreement did nothing of the kind. There is too much reason to believe that the publication of this surreptitiously obtained paper was due to the instigation or connivance of Russian officials. At any rate, it is a significant circumstance that this spurious version tallied exactly with the demands put forward by the Russian Ambassador some time previously, and properly rejected by the British Foreign Office.

Before we proceed, as we hope to do on a future occasion, to point out some of the more salient features which have always distinguished Lord Salisbury's policy at home and abroad, we cannot refrain from quoting one more passage of Mr. Pulling's book, in which he ably sums up the causes of the ever-memorable Conservative disaster of 1880:—

The election of 1880 will be referred to by future historians and philosophers as a proof of the ingratitude and credulity of a democracy, and it will indeed be a difficult task to acquit the English people of at least culpable and criminal folly. That the great and successful Administration of Lord Beaconsfield should have been overthrown by those whom it had most benefited, that the rhetorical stock-in-trade of demagogues and party politicians should have found ready listeners and devoted disciples, that the interested and self-seeking politics of an embittered Opposition should have been accepted as a new gospel by hundreds of honest operatives and hard-headed men of business, is enough to shake one's faith in a widely extended franchise and government by the masses. . . . . All differences between Whigs and Radicals, Liberals and Home Rulers were sunk in one passionate desire to turn the Government out. The Whig duke contributed his thousands to the electioneering fund, the Radical wire-puller strained his complaisant caucus to renewed efforts, the moderation of Lord Hartington was dangled before the eyes of the Whigs. While the extreme section were told that some of the sweets of office should be allotted to their leaders, the Ritualist was bid remember the Public Worship Act, the Dissenter was promised a Burial Bill. . . . . On the 1st of April, 1880—the most terrible All-Fools' Day in our history—the verdict was given for Mr. Gladstone. *Sic populo placuit.* What service was it to point out that the prophets were prophesying falsely, but to meet with the cynical response that the people loved to have it so!

* *The Life and Speeches of the Marquis of Salisbury K.G.* By F. S. Pulling, M.A. In Two Vols.—London Sampson Low and Co., 1885.

NEW NOVELS.

The baronet has had rather a better time of it of late in the world of fiction, but he is restored to his former proud pre-eminence of villainy in Mr. Gray's pages. Sir Garth Gilroy is an admirable specimen of his class, as it presents itself to the *perfervidum ingenium* of the author of the penny-dreadful style of novel. Indeed, *Like Lost Sheep* * may be pronounced to be throughout a representative specimen of that class of literature, and the various other personages introduced are no less in accord with the conventional type adopted in it than the wicked baronet himself, who dwells "with grim care in his breast and wan ghosts "about his hearth." It seems almost too much of a concession to ordinary human weakness that such a being should ever appear "with a light "coat covering his evening clothes, and a cigarette "between the wax-white fingers of his jewelled "left hand," as he does when he is seen in the wood by Roger Harland and Barton Chance. But he makes up for it by the impassioned soliloquy in which he indulges while "the exquisite "fragrance of his Egyptian cigarette is wafted" to his unintentional observers. The baronet has, of course, betrayed a village girl, but has somehow got regularly married to her without intending it, and the heroine carries about the marriage certificate in a jet locket while engaged in the task of exposing her unworthy male parent. Why, as she possessed this certificate, it should be further necessary for her to go down in disguise and live in the neighbourhood of the baronet in order to expose his machinations does not quite appear, and for an amateur detective she sets about her business in a singularly bungling fashion. But if she had not gone as governess to the vulgar Mr. and Mrs. Pringle, who are as completely conventional specimens of the *nouveaux riches* as Sir Garth is of the wicked baronet, she would not have come across Roger Harland, a no less conventional specimen of the honest but humble lover, and we should have been spared the perusal of an exceedingly foolish novel. As it is, she marries Roger, and we have to waste our time over *Like Lost Sheep*. A kind of underplot deals with the love of Kate Harland for Barton Chance, a gentleman who "was very "fair, with the warm downy fairness of a "rich ripe peach," but had an unfortunate propensity for drink, which leads to his premature death after he had taken to driving a Hansom. The murder of the wicked baronet, of which of course the heroine is suspected, and the failure of a diabolical plot on his part to get rid of his son and heir, are also episodes in a story which has nothing but its unintentional absurdities of style, incident, and dialogue to recommend it to the reader. We had thought of giving one or two of the conversations between the wicked baronet and the avenging daughter to justify our criticism, but have refrained from so doing, as it would be hardly fair on our readers to occupy our space with them. Indeed, we must apologise for having wasted so much of it on *Like Lost Sheep*.

In *Zoroaster* † the author of *Mr. Isaacs* and *Dr. Claudius* has adventured on what is, in his case, a new experiment in the way of novel-writing. Almost all successful novelists deem it necessary sooner or later to attempt an historical romance, and often with a success which surprises even their admirers. George Eliot's *Romola*, Kingsley's *Hypatia*, Thackeray's *Esmond*, and Dickens's *Tale of Two Cities* will at once occur to our readers, and though we do not—at present, at all events—rank Mr. Crawford with the great novelists whom we have named, it is but in accordance with the fitness of literary things that he too should try his hand at an historical novel. He has attained to no small measure of success in his present experiment, which must have seemed a venturous one to those who knew him only by his previous works. At the same time, we cannot say that *Zoroaster* is so great and so unqualified a success in its line as *Mr. Isaacs* was in its line, and we think that there are more writers among us who could have written Mr. Crawford's latest than there who could have written Mr. Crawford's earliest work. It is not, however, so much our present duty to compare *Mr. Isaacs* with *Zoroaster* as to tell our readers what they may expect to find in the latter. They will find in it a great deal of archæological research, and a praiseworthy, if not an altogether successful, attempt on the writer's part to throw himself back into the atmosphere of a world very different from that nineteenth century world with which he has hitherto dealt. There is, perhaps, too decided a smell of the lamp about

* *Like Lost Sheep.* By Arnold Gray. In Three Vols.—London: Ward and Downey, 1885.

† *Zoroaster.* By F. Marion Crawford. In Two Vols.—London: Macmillan and Co., 1885.

Zoroaster, and we are every now and then pulled up by an uneasy feeling that it is not out of the abundance of his heart, but out of the abundance of his reading, that the author is speaking. This is, however, an almost unavoidable evil, when the author's scene is laid on lines so remote and in regions so distant as those which Mr. Crawford has selected. Nor is the difficulty of the task diminished by the high flight which he has essayed; and, when a novelist takes the great Eastern sage Zoroaster for his hero, and makes him the rival in love of the mighty Darius, while throwing in Daniel as one of the minor personages, rather a large demand is made upon us. Indeed, it goes somewhat against the grain to find in the founder of a religion which has played so prominent a part among the religions of the world a mere disappointed lover, such as we have often met before under less exalted circumstances. The lady of his affections, who has had the advantage of having her education superintended by the prophet Daniel, is Nehushta, a Hebrew princess, and her name is unpleasantly suggestive of the "accursed thing" which her royal ancestor had destroyed. She had plighted her faith to the young Zoroaster, but, unfortunately, the love of Darius and the hate of Atossa interfere to prevent their union. The latter is the villain of the piece, with her false smile, which, while she was planning her rival's ruin, "returned to her lips "more sweetly than ever—those lips that had "kissed three kings, and that had never spoken "truly a kind or a merciful word to living man, "or child, or woman." On her portrait Mr. Crawford has bestowed even more pains than on that of the truth-loving but susceptible Darius; and it is her personality which stands out most vividly as the reader closes the two volumes before us. But credit must also be given to the writer for his admirable descriptions alike of Belshazzar's feast and of the courtly and religious splendours of Shushan. As far as the dramatic interest of the novel, apart from its admirable background and generally successful get-up, is concerned, the most striking portions of the work are the scene between Atossa and Nehushta, in which the former reveals the depths of her perfidy to her unconscious rival, and the last scene of all, where Nehushta and Zoroaster die clasped in each other's arms, massacred by the wild riders of the Eastern desert, whose onset is so graphically described. The terror of the unearthly cry which echoes from the hills in the ears of the luckless Queen is not likely to fade from the reader's memory. Mr. Crawford has certainly achieved a marvellous *tour de force* in *Zoroaster*, though we doubt if it will rank as high among his collected works as the less ambitious but more original *Mr. Isaacs*.

A Woman's Revenge,* by Miss Lily Tinsley, of whose earlier works we have had occasion to speak in most favourable terms, will do much to establish her reputation as a novelist of no mean order. Her story *At the Cross Roads* led us to anticipate still greater achievements from the writer, and in the work before us we find our expectations fully realised. Her characters are carefully drawn, and the plot, which is laid in Italy, well worked out. That the writer possesses considerable power of description is evidenced by the vivid pictures we find here presented of many Italian scenes, while that of St. Anthony's Leap is most graphic, and the incidents connected with that part of the story which has to do with the picturesque spot are extremely thrilling. It is here that the hero, Sir Robert Drew, is saved from certain death by the man whom Drew has most cruelly wronged, and that at the cost of his rescuer's life. Here, too, over the corpse of Enrique, the hero hears uttered from the lips of the woman whom he has sworn shall be his wife, unloved and unloving, a vow that she will revenge the death of him to whom alone her heart had been given. With what unrelenting persistency she carries out her determination, and how fully realised are her predictions that Drew shall one day yearn for love similar in intensity to that she had given to the now dead Enrique, we must leave the reader to discover, satisfied that a careful perusal of the two volumes will be attended with considerable pleasure.

Love the Debt was, if we remember right, a very promising work, but the new novel by the same author which is now before us by no means bears out that promise. It is, indeed, a most unpleasant and most unsatisfactory book, the publication of which could not possibly do any good to anyone, and might not improbably do a certain amount of harm. The story is a thoroughly unwholesome one, and we do not propose to dwell upon it. Nor is there anything attractive in the personages by whom it is worked out. Raven, the hero, is a miserably weak creature, who, on the very verge of his ordination, abandons the clerical career at the bidding of Lucy the heroine. She is a thorough coquette, but even a thorough coquette is not as a rule so lost to every sense of self-respect as she is represented to be, and that she should marry a man who had behaved to her as Hugh Dromore did is disgusting and unnatural. It is impossible not to compare the situation in which she is placed by his schemes—aided as those schemes were by her maid, whom he has already led astray—with that of Clarissa and Lovelace; but how degenerate is the nineteenth century Clarissa when compared with Richardson's heroine, and as for the nineteenth century Lovelace—well, the less said about him the better. This is, indeed, the verdict to be passed upon the book as a whole, and, acting in accordance with it, we decline to occupy our space and our reader's time with any further comments, merely confining ourselves to an emphatic warning to them not to read *A Coquette's Conquest*.*

* *A Woman's Revenge*. By Lily Tinsley. In Two Vols.—London: Tinsley Brothers, 1885.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

To give in a concise manner a brief history of all the nations of the world is a task which requires no little courage and energy on the part of him who undertakes it. No little courage and energy are also required by the critic who undertakes to examine the results of such an attempt. We prefer ourselves simply to chronicle the fact that it has been made, and to mention the publication by Mr. Sanderson of a volume which he describes on its title-page as *Outlines of the World's History, Ancient, Mediæval, and Modern, with Special Relation to the History of Civilisation and the Progress of Mankind* (Blackie and Son). To attempt to criticise minutely such a work is almost as hopeless as to attempt to produce it, but we must own that as far as we can judge from an inspection of it, which has been of necessity cursory, Mr. Sanderson has achieved a greater measure of success than could reasonably have been anticipated from the magnitude of his undertaking.

The many friends of the late Greville Phillimore will gladly welcome such a tribute to his memory as is afforded by the two volumes of his sermons which are now before us. One of these, entitled *Sermons and Hymns*, which is more specially intended to serve as an In Memoriam of a ripe scholar, an accomplished theologian, and an energetic parish priest, is published by one of his late parishioners, Mr. Higgs, of Henley-on-Thames, and is a creditable specimen of provincial printing. Prefixed to it is a graceful and pathetic memoir of Mr. Phillimore, by his sister, which well describes him as the constant friend of rich and poor alike, and speaks in touching terms of his "cheerful kindly smile and ever ready "sympathy." We are glad to think that so appropriate a memorial of him as the drinking-fountain at Henley, for which a site has been granted by the Mayor and Corporation, should preserve the recollection of him in what was the main sphere of his parochial labours. The "Henley volume," as we may call it to distinguish it from the *Parochial Sermons*, which have since been published by Mr. Walter Smith, contains a collection of his hymns which breathe a truly devotional and a truly poetic spirit. Many of them are familiar to all students of Church hymnology, and it is probable that not a few who have often joined in these hymns are unaware to whom they are indebted for them. The concluding sermon in the Henley volume has a special and a melancholy interest of its own in having been the last preached by Mr. Phillimore, who died suddenly at midnight on the very Sunday on which he preached it. Of the others dealing with public events, one at least is noteworthy, that on the Thanksgiving for Tel-el-Kebir. Others have a more personal interest, as, for example, the farewell sermon preached at the close of his fifteen years' ministry at Henley. But of those which are not dependent on any extraneous source of attraction we may single out that on "The Five "Virgins," and that on "Weariness;" the latter of these is a special favourite of ours. The actual cream of the sermons has rather been skimmed in the Henley volume; but the *Parochial Sermons* published by Mr. Walter Smith are an excellent specimen of the class. We do not know that there is anything so specially striking in them as to call for publication apart from the interest which they possess as recalling the utterances of a truly good man. But that on "Conversation" has a great attraction of its own as a bold and forcible attempt to grapple with a difficulty often overlooked; and all the sermons will be welcome to Mr. Phillimore's friends, and will at the same time afford a useful model for parish priests of less experience.

Mr. T. Ruddiman Johnston, of Murrayfield, Edinburgh, has just published a capital coloured map, exhibiting at a glance the *New Electorate of the United Kingdom*. We can cordially recommend it.

Shakespeare Forget-Me-Nots and *Longfellow Forget-Me-Nots* (Griffith, Farran, and Co.) are unique little volumes, consisting of the choicest quotations from the works of Shakespeare and Longfellow, enclosed in charming borders of forget-me-nots designed by Robert E. Mack. The delicate-looking little books are admirably got up, and the quotations have been well chosen. *Threads of Gold*, by Catherine J. Martyr (issued by the same firm) is well named from the really golden thoughts to which expression is given in every paragraph of this acceptable little book.

Correspondence.

MEDICAL RELIEF DISQUALICATION.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—If the medical relief disqualification is adhered to, it will deprive the labourers in my own and all surrounding parishes, of the vote that has just been conferred upon them, and the natural irritation it will cause will be roused and fomented by those busy ones ever on the watch for a cry against the House of Lords and the Conservative party. It does seem senseless to give a thing only to take it away again. No one living among the labouring class can think them fit to have a vote; their want of education and knowledge, combined with their sole, and not unreasonable, desire of benefiting themselves, at any cost to the country, and their credulity towards those who promise it to them, make their possession of this great power full of the utmost danger for the future of England. But it is too late now to recall it; and it seems unjust to deprive them of the use of it for a circumstance which they cannot avoid, and which does not affect their fitness for the franchise; they could not pay doctors' bills out of their wages; and if in a benefit club themselves, there are none for the wives and young children. If the man receiving medical relief *himself* were made the ground of disqualification there would be more justice in it, for he might be in a club as well as his more thrifty neighbours.

Your faithfully,

June 23. J. F.

ECCLESIASTICAL ART.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—Allow me to appeal through your columns to those who may be willing to lend objects of Ecclesiastical Art and Antiquities for exhibition at Portsmouth.

The loan collection will embrace goldsmiths' and silversmiths' work, ancient and modern, and ecclesiastical metal work in general; embroidery, needlework, tapestry, wood and ivory carving, ecclesiastical furniture, paintings, drawings, architectural designs for churches and schools, photographs, books, MSS., and other objects of archæological interest. The collection of disused church plate is always a special feature of the exhibition.

If any of your readers can assist me in obtaining articles of interest, I shall be greatly obliged.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

JOHN HART.

THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

With an appreciation of the "eternal fitness of things," the Festival this year has been antedated, in order that it might be kept on the bi-centenary of the mighty Saxon's birth. The rehearsal on Friday was a rehearsal in fact and not merely in name, as at previous rehearsals under another *chef d'orchestre*; and though these frequent checks might have been rather trying to performers and audience alike, yet it is surely better that faults should be exposed and corrected than slurred over by a perfunctory rehearsal. The chorus and orchestra were of the usual colossal proportions; there is little scope for variety in the programme, the *Messiah* and *Israel in Egypt* occupying two days. There were, however, some very interesting novelties introduced on the "selection" day, which will be chronicled in due course.

It were tedious as a thrice-told tale to write anything of the *Messiah* as a work. The performance on Monday was in every respect remarkably good. The principals were Mdmes. Albani and Patey, Messrs. Maas, Santley, and Foli; and with such principals and a chorus so well balanced and so thoroughly drilled in a work so familiar to people brought "up in the religion of Handel," its performance was as nearly perfection as it is possible to conceive. Mdme. Albani's exquisitely clear and liquid voice was heard distinctly to the "ultima Thule" of the west end: the florid divisions in "Rejoice greatly" reaching the ears with wonderful clearness of articulation. Written in a moment of direct inspiration, and sung with a "voice of tears," Mdme. Patey's rendering of "He was despised" created a profound impression. Mr. Maas sang the tenor music with great success, his rendering of "Thy rebuke hath broken his heart" being specially noteworthy for its tenderness, as the air "Thou shalt break them" was for its vigour and spirit. Mr. Santley sang in his wonted artistic style and with great power "Why do the nations," every note being heard distinctly. A word of praise is due to the trumpet obbligato in "The trumpet shall sound." Signor Foli declaimed with great vigour "Thus saith the Lord of hosts." With the exception of a slight unsteadiness in one of the choruses, the *ensemble* of this vast army of performers was something marvellous.

Wednesday opened with the overture to *Saul*, one of the works not before given at a Handel Festival, and very effective it proved, the organ solo, ably played by Mr. Eyre, adding much variety of contrast. Instead of the air from *Judas*, Mdme. Albani sang, how exquisitely it is superfluous to say, "Angels ever bright and fair," and was honoured with a double recall. Mdme. Valleria was very well received in "From mighty kings." Mr. Lloyd's rendering of "Waft her, angels," made an effective companion picture to Mdme. Albani's air from *Theodora*. Mr. Santley's declamation of "And the great dragon" in "His sceptre is the rod of righteousness," with its exacting scale passages, was a most artistic and perfect performance. Mr. Maas sang the air from *Judas*, "Sound an alarm," with infinite spirit and vigour. The trio and chorus, "See the conquering hero," made an effective ending to the first part. The most interesting number in the first part was the "concerto for double orchestra," performed from a transcript of the composer's MS. in the music library at Buckingham Palace. If this be, as it would seem, its first performance, it is making no great claim to prophetic gifts to foretell that it will not be its last.

The secular part opened with a concerto for organ and orchestra, the organ being in the competent hands of Mr. W. T. Best. The *ad libitum* fugue was clever, but a trifle heavy even for an adagio, but it made an excellent foil for the *spiritoso* movement which followed. Mdme. Albani won fresh laurels by her tenderly graceful rendering of "Sweet bird," ably seconded by the flute obbligato of Mr. Alfred Wells. Mdme. Valleria was not heard at her best in the air "But oh, what art can teach, what human voice an reach," and as regards the latter part of the sentence, it might be suggested to the fair singer that the human voice would reach much further if it were not unduly forced. Mdme. Trebelli in her own artistic style introduced the audience to a new air from *Xerxes*, which was not received with as much applause as her perfect rendering demanded. Mr. Lloyd was honoured with a double recall for his inimitably delicate rendering of "Love in her eyes sits playing." Mr. Maas sang with much feeling a new air from *Atalanta*, "Tell fair Irene my heart she is breaking." Mr. Santley sang in his usual perfect style, "Nasce al bosco," which was received with great applause. In the very small part allotted to him, Mr. Barrington Foote distinguished himself by his artistic rendering of "Haste thee, nymph." The choruses went without an exception with a marvellous *ensemble* and crispness. The chorus from *Hercules*, "Love and Hymen," is a distinct gain to the musical world, scored with a breadth and simplicity which place it within the reach of ordinary choirs. A most interest number was the sonata for violin, originally written with a thoroughbass for the harpsichord: this was adapted for stringed instruments by Ferdinand David, and the violin part was on Wednesday taken by the whole of the violins, and whatever purists may say as to the profanity of tampering with Handel's original treatment, the result, as heard on this occasion, was most successful. The prolonged applause showed that the able conductor had enlisted the suffrages of the multitude on his side. Obviously it would be a dangerous experiment to attempt it with a less competent body of violinists, but at any rate *pro hac vice*, Mr. Manns scored a triumph.

The *Israel in Egypt* was given on Friday, and, as it is emphatically *the* work for the building, no one would wish any variation in the stereotyped programme as regards this colossal work. There is a palpable *suggestio falsi* in the able and succinct critical notice bearing the well-known initials "W. H. H.," for the mention of Handel's appropriation of "some ideas" of Stradella's serenata would lead the uninitiated to conclude that they were a few "unconsidered trifles" which he had annexed, instead of, *inter alia*, a passage twenty-seven bars long transferred bodily with scarcely the change of a note in the chorus. "He spake the word" not having an overture, that of the "occasional" oratorio was used, and so splendidly played that it was encored and repeated. Mdme. Patey sang in her finished style the somewhat uninteresting air "Their land brought forth frogs." Miss Annie Marriott's voice was very clear and distinct in "Thou didst blow." Mdme. Valleria sang "Sing ye to the Lord," and joined Miss Marriott in the duet "The Lord is my strength." Mr. Lloyd achieved a triumph for his magnificent declamation of "The enemy said," which was repeated, as the audience would take no refusal. In the duet, "The Lord is a man of war," Mr. Bridson's voice was heard distinctly, but judged by the crucial test of the west gallery, Mr. F. King lacked the requisite power. Of course the great feature of the *Israel* is the choruses and double choruses, and the colossal manner in which in this great work Handel has piled "Ossa upon Pelion" shows the hand of a giant, and, with two or three little abatements, as the impatient entry of the drum and a false intonation or two in that most exacting chorus "And with the blast," the language of panegyric would be exhausted in describing the magnificent way in which they were sung; very striking were the gradations of tone in the *crescendo* and *diminuendo* passages, and certainly Mr. Manns deserved all the applause he gained for marshalling his musical army with such perfect generalship. It would be unfair to suggest a political application of the words, "Egypt was glad at their departing," especially as Mr. Gladstone was present on this occasion. The attendances have been, as officially given:—Rehearsal, 17,829; *Messiah*, 22,721; selection, 22,161; and *Israel*, 21,000 (?). Royalty at this Festival has been conspicuous by its absence.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

A dramatic and musical *matinée* for the benefit of Lady Benedict was given at Drury Lane Theatre on Tuesday afternoon in place of what was to have been the fifty-first annual concert of the late Sir Julius. An interesting programme was prepared, though what had promised to be a specially attractive item, a performance of *The First Night*, with Lady Benedict as Rose Despard, supported by Messrs. Wyndham, Beerbohm-Tree, Alexander, Giddens, Hill, and Grossmith, was of necessity omitted. Mr. Maas, Mr. King, Madame Trebelli, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Sims Reeves took part in the concert. Mr. Reeves sang "It is a charming girl I love" (from "The Lily of Killarney")—the only piece of Sir Julius Benedict's composition that was heard during the afternoon. Mr. Reeves also sang "Tom Bowling," Mr. George Grossmith gave one of his merry compositions, Mrs. Bancroft recited Hood's "Demon Ship" in a highly effective style, and Mr. Beerbohm-Tree created a deep impression by his recitation of Mr. Sims's poem, "Told to the Missionary," a dying costermonger's story of his dog's faithfulness. Mr. G. W. Godfrey's *My Milliner's Bill* was played by Mr. Arthur Cecil and Mrs. John Wood, and received with roars of laughter. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal were seen in Mr. Theyre Smith's comedietta *Uncle's Will*, and Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Giddens, and Miss Kate Rorke repeated the performance they gave at the benefit of the Royal General Theatrical Fund of Charles Dance's *Delicate Ground*. The house was crowded.

The Royal Archæological Institute has definitely fixed the last week in July and the first in August for this year's Congress, which is to be held at Derby, under the presidency of Lord Carnarvon. Among the patrons of the congress are the Dukes of Norfolk, Rutland, and Devonshire, the Bishops of Lichfield and Southwell, Lords Hartington, Vernon, and Scarsdale, and Bishop Abraham. Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., will preside over the architectural section, the Dean of Lichfield over the historical, and the Rev. Dr. Cox over the antiquarian. On Tuesday, July 28, the members of the institute will be publicly received by the Mayor and Corporation of Derby and by the local archæological and natural history society; and in the afternoon Kedleston Church and Hall will be visited. Wednesday, the 29th, will be devoted to Norbury-house, Ashbourne, and Tutbury Castle, Church, and earthworks; Thursday to Chesterfield and Hardwicke-hall; Friday to Bakewell, Haddon-hall, and Youlgreave Church; and Saturday to Dale Abbey, Sawley, Breadsall, and Morley. On Monday, August 3, an excursion will be made to Repton, with its church, school, and priory, as well as to Breedon Priory and Melbourne Church. On Tuesday, the 4th, the party will go by railway to Chapel-en-le-Frith, and drive thence to Castleton, Peak Castle, and Tideswell. On Wednesday, the 5th, they will go by rail to Hassop, from which place they will drive to Padley, Carl Wark, and Hathersage. A temporary museum will be opened at the Free Library, Derby, rooms in which

* *A Coquette's Conquest*. By "Basil." In Three Vols.—London: Richard Bentley and Son, 1885.

will be placed every evening at the disposal of the sectional meetings. On the evening of Thursday, the 30th, there will be a conversazione, given by Lord Percy and the other members of the Council, at the Free Library, for which a large number of invitations will be issued to the gentry of the neighbourhood. The Mayor of Derby has undertaken the office of chairman of the local committee, and the excursion arrangements will be under the management of the secretaries of the institute, Messrs. Hellier Gosselin and St. John Hope.

The two small pictures by Ugolino di Siena, which were purchased from the collection of the late Rev. J. Fuller Russell, have now been placed in the National Gallery on one of the screens in Room XVII. They are companion works in tempera on gold ground, representing "The Betrayal of Christ" and "The Procession to Cavalry," and were originally portions of an altar-piece which Vasari tells us was painted for the church of Santa Croce in Florence, afterwards removed to a convent, and at the beginning of the present century sold to Mr. W. Y. Ottley. Ugolino, who was one of the earliest of the Sienese school, being a close follower of Cimabue and who did much work in Florence, as well as in many other cities, has hitherto been unrepresented in the collection. The date of his birth seems uncertain, but his death took place some years after that of Giotto. These two examples of his work were acquired by Sir Frederick Burton out of the Clarke Bequest. Another recent addition, which has been hung in Room IX., is a head of a boy with reddish-brown hair and a sallow complexion, by François Clouet, of Tours, who in 1541 succeeded his father as painter to Francis I. There is another smaller example from his hand in the collection—namely, the portrait of a man in the ordinary costume of that period.

With the exception of the small oval painting by Rubens, the new acquisitions for the National Gallery from the Beckett-Denison collection are works of painters hitherto unrepresented there by sole examples. One is the picture of "Christ driving out the Money-changers" (from the design of Michael Angelo), by Marcello Venusti, to which Dr. Waagen referred in terms of praise when describing the treasures of Hamilton Palace, and the others are a pair of studies for altar-pieces by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo, who contributed the figures to Canale's picture "The Scuola di San Rocco." The name of the former painter is usually associated with that of the great master whose designs he so frequently carried out, and whose pictures he skilfully copied. Born at Mantua in 1515, Venusti studied under Pierino del Vaga, whom he assisted in important compositions in Florence and Rome. We believe also that Cardinal Farnese employed him to copy Michael Angelo's world-famed masterpiece "The Last Judgment," which patient undertaking he accomplished with much success. There are works from his hand, either in fresco or in oil, at most of the churches and chapels in Rome, and his compositions have been generally admired for their beauty of colouring and excellent finish. In these qualities the example under notice, which has held a place successively in the Borghese Palace, Sir Thomas Lawrence's collection, and Hamilton Palace, is no exception. Not much is left on record respecting the Venetian painter Tiepolo, who flourished in the first half of last century. He painted several frescoes in the then new palace of Madrid, and a painting of the shipwreck of Saint Satiro in the church of St. Ambrose at Milan; and he also etched a considerable number of plates. The small work by Rubens "The Birth of Venus" had been acquired for considerably less than half the sum given for it by Mr. Beckett-Denison. On the first occasion it brought 1,600 guineas, and has now falle under the hammer at 640 guineas.

THE PUSEY MEMORIAL AT OXFORD.

A large and important gathering of subscribers to the Pusey Memorial took place at Oxford on Thursday, when there was a thanksgiving service at the University Church for the Pusey House, which was opened last October in St. Giles.

It is hoped that the House may serve the cause of the Church by promoting religious teaching in Oxford on the lines of the Church of England, especially in view of the changed relations between the University and the Church; secondly, as a home for theological study in relation to the Church generally; and thirdly, that it may indirectly co-operate in those aspects of the Church work which can be discharged by clergy without parochial duties.

Canon Liddon was announced to preach at St. Mary the Virgin, but owing to illness he was unable to do so, and his place was taken by Canon Paget, who has recently succeeded to the Professorship of Pastoral Theology in the University, vacated by the Bishop of Lincoln.

After the service there was a luncheon at Keble College, at which the Bishop of Oxford presided. The company numbered about three hundred, and amongst those present were Earl and Countess Beauchamp, Earl Powis, the Earl and Countess of Glasgow, Lord and Lady Clinton, the Bishop of Pretoria, the Bishop of Brisbane, Mrs. W. E. and Miss Gladstone, the Hon. Charles L. Wood, the Hon. H. and Lady Mary Douglass, &c.

The BISHOP expressed the regret which they all felt at the absence through illness of the Warden of Keble and Dr. Liddon, and of others owing to the general upset of political life with which the country was now occupied, and said that was a day of thanksgiving not only for the great life and honoured memory of Dr. Pusey, but for the way in which the idea of commemorating him in Oxford had been exhibited in England at large, for they were hardly prepared to find that within so brief a space of time more than £30,000 had been contributed from all parts of the country and from America. They felt that the power of Dr. Pusey's name and the love and character of the influence which survived him ought not to be allowed to die out, and it was a comfort and source of thanksgiving, too, that if there was anything ephemeral or partial in the great life of Dr. Pusey, anything connected with transitory controversies or temporary misunderstandings, those seemed to fade out so rapidly; and the great substances of his life, the great force of his teaching, and the great influence of his character seemed to survive all that, and to rise above the mists, if mists they were, which sometimes surrounded him, and become more luminous every day. They would not expect to have statistical reports from the Pusey House, or to hear of wonderful changes; but what they had to tell them was that a real work was going on there, and that there were scores of men who were grateful for the help, the sympathy, and support which they had received within these modest walls.

Lord GLASGOW, in proposing the toast of "Prosperity to the Pusey House," said they were met together to commemorate the first and almost private opening of the house and library dedicated to a revered memory. Among all who knew the revered Dr. Pusey when he was taken away from the long-accustomed scene of his labours and studies, there was but one feeling—that some effective steps should be taken to do honour to his memory and perpetuate his work. In the course of from two to three years a sum of nearly £33,000 had been raised from some 3,000 subscribers and above 200 offertories, and some interest in the work had been shown in America and the colonies. Although they might be very grateful that such good progress had been made, they must bear in mind that the sum required was £50,000, and never consider their work accomplished till that sum had been fully realised. Now they had invited three earnest and devoted men to carry on his work, and so great and varied was it that even four would be scarcely found to suffice. He concluded by wishing the chief librarian all success in his high and holy work.

The PRINCIPAL of the Pusey House, in reply, said he thought they would expect him to explain a little of what they were doing in Oxford. It was thought that one thing was somewhat conspicuous in Oxford at the present time. It was not the absence of religious earnestness or religious zeal from it. It was his belief that seldom had there been a time when there was more religious zeal in the University of Oxford and among the undergraduates; but what they felt was so assuredly wanting now, was some security for the continuous presentation in any particular place of the teaching of the Church of England, and those who were maintainers and supporters of this memorial thought an effort ought to be made under the shadow of this great name to maintain in Oxford a continuous witness of the teaching of the Church of England. They did not desire to enter into rivalry with the parish churches or the parish clergy in this help which at all times they had given to members of the University; but still it was felt there was a place for something which should supplement both the colleges and the parish churches, and that hope they felt was justly grounded.

Mr. SHAW STEWART said but for the exigencies of the time Lord Beauchamp and Sir Walter Phillimore, who had been with them earlier in the day, would have remained and addressed them. He had to submit to them the toast of the preacher of the day, Canon Paget. With regard to their fund, they had in three years done about two-thirds of their work, and they now required a fourth librarian, and he appealed to that large company to extend the work.

Canon PAGET replied.

The Hon. C. L. WOOD proposed the health of the Bishop of Oxford, and expressed the deep gratitude he felt to his Lordship for the way in which he had from the beginning taken up this work of the Pusey Memorial, and for the help and support and generous confidence he had given to those who desired to carry on that work. The PROVOST of WORCESTER also remarked that those on the Executive Committee knew that the success of the work was owing to the chairmanship and guidance of the Bishop of Oxford.

The BISHOP, in reply, said Mr. Wood had spoken of the gratitude to the Bishop for his kindness and support of the Pusey House. He did assure them most unfeignedly that the gratitude was the other way. They knew very well that the Bishop of Oxford had no authority in the University of Oxford; and not only so, it was his duty and his wisdom to be very careful how he appeared to attempt to exercise authority which in an academical sense did not belong to him. Still, that great University consisted of young men, and older ones too, whose souls were just as precious in the sight of the chief pastor of the diocese as any others. From that University there went out men who were to be the guides and teachers of the thought and practice of the whole country, and there were in that University all kinds of sources of power and weakness, and of influence and failure, which from time to time were marked and observed in English history, and how could any one who was charged with the office of Bishop of Oxford fail to look with deep interest upon the state of it as during the short generations it rapidly passed from one phase to another. He had looked upon it sometimes with great misgivings, and he was most thankful to Almighty God that the Pusey House was one support in these critical times—a great support to the cause of truth and of religion, and a moral and spiritual influence in Oxford.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN PARIS.

A well-attended meeting was held at the Mansion-House on Monday to hear a statement respecting the work of the Church of England in Paris. Among those present were the Bishop of London, Bishop Titcomb, Lord Wynford, Major-General Salusbury Canon Fleming, Archdeacon Richardson, and the Rev. W. H. Webb-Peploe.

The Rev. T. HOWARD GILL (chaplain of the Rue d'Aguesseau Church) made a statement respecting Church work in Paris. He especially invited consideration to the following facts as to the work:—The Rue d'Aguesseau Church is the chief representative of the Church of England and of English Protestantism on the Continent. It is used Sunday after Sunday by British subjects from all parts of the globe. It exists largely for the poor English, of whom there are many thousands in Paris. Among these, in addition to the services in the church, the Rue d'Aguesseau staff has established three mission stations in remote quarters of Paris, and maintains four separate services each week and three Sunday-schools. A missionary curate and a Scripture-reader are employed specially for the English poor, and they visit among these and relieve their wants irrespective of creed. The church has been lately thoroughly repaired at a cost of nearly £4,000, of which £1,500 yet remains unpaid. The congregation of the Rue d'Aguesseau Church is now largely composed of young ladies' schools, governesses, clerks, and tourists. The wealthy English families who resided in Paris under the Empire are no longer to be found there, and the permanent congregation is quite unable to cope with the remaining debt. This being so, the chaplain and officers naturally turn to their mother country for help, and they venture to press the above claims upon the attention of mercantile firms which have branch houses or business connections in Paris, upon English people who are in the habit of visiting the Continent, and upon the charitable and well-disposed at large. Mr. Gill asked for help for the effort being made to pay off the debt on the church of £1,500, and stated that it was desired also to obtain a hall or room in which to hold religious and educational meetings. A good freehold house close to the church might be purchased for some £10,000, and it was proposed to purchase and utilise such a house. The chief merit of the scheme would be the acquisition of parochial rooms. Here the Sunday school would be held in separate class rooms; a reception room for young Englishmen living in Paris would be fitted up; a room provided in which governesses and English girls, several of whom come eight or ten miles to the church, might rest and have some refreshments; a reading room, a lecture room, library, a mothers' meeting and Dorcas room, a room for prayer meetings and Bible readings, &c. In addition to the purchase money, some £1,500 would be required for alterations and fittings, so that the whole sum would be from £11,000 to £12,000. This might seem a large amount, but it would be well spent for the good of the 11,000 of our fellow-countrymen in Paris, and would give a life and force and permanency to the work of the Church in Paris such as it had never possessed.

The Bishop of LONDON moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting, having heard the statement of the chaplain of the Rue d'Aguesseau Church concerning the numbers and the circumstances of the English in Paris, recognises the claim of those who are working among them to the sympathy and support of their fellow countrymen at home, and especially of the inhabitants of the metropolis.

He observed that he could not speak of any personal knowledge of Paris, but he could only speak in his capacity of Bishop of the diocese, which included all English residents on the Continent of Europe, and, therefore, the English residents in Paris were a part of the diocese entrusted to his care. It seemed to him that there were two reasons why the resolution should commend itself to the sympathy of the people of the metropolis and of England generally. In the first place, they had heard of the very large number of poor Englishmen in Paris who had distinctly a claim upon them. They ought, if they could, to provide for all the means of obtaining the advice and the aid of the clergy. The English residents in Paris were in the position of being among strangers, who were cut off from them by nationality, language, and religion. They were, in fact, living among persons who would have considerable hesitation in making spiritual provision for them. Appeal, therefore, among those with whom they were living was quite impossible. They therefore must appeal to their fellow-countrymen. The other reason why the appeal should be made to them was because the Rue d'Aguesseau Church not only supplied the spiritual needs of those who spoke their language, but the church was the centre for relieving the distressed, the afflicted, and the bewildered English in Paris. For such reasons as those he considered the poorer population had a very strong claim upon them indeed. He thought that a sufficient case had been made out for being liberal in their contributions, and in doing their best for the claim which had been submitted by Mr. Gill.

Mr. W. H. LONG, M.P., second the resolution, which was supported by the Rev. W. H. WEBB-PEPLOE, and carried.

The Bishop of MANCHESTER observed that the difficulties connected with the work of Mr. Gill would be chiefly of a financial character. The tourists who frequented the church were not so liberal as they might and ought to be. It was absolutely necessary that there should be a parsonage—a central place of some sort to which the resident English population could go in order to find the minister, and where the city mission and school might be held. He knew the value in his own city of Manchester of having the clergy and the whole parochial plant set down in close proximity to the church. The sum asked for seemed rather large; but he did not doubt that the appeal would be liberally responded to when the full importance of the enterprise was known. The Bishop then moved:—

That this meeting learns with surprise that in connection with the Rue d'Aguesseau Church, which is practically the parish church of many thousands of British subjects resident in Paris, there is neither parsonage, schoolhouse, mission-hall, building, or room of what sort soever for parochial purposes; that it is of opinion that steps should be taken forthwith to remedy this state of things; and that it heartily commends the scheme proposed by the chaplain for this purpose to the support of the British public.

Canon FLEMING, in seconding the resolution, said that there were thousands who regretted the meanness of the English in Paris in their support of Church work. However, it was not too late to do what was right.

The resolution was carried, as were votes of thanks to the Lord Mayor and the Chairman.

THE CHURCH AND THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

Mr. Foxley, in a letter to the *Guardian*, complaining of the manner in which the Paris correspondent of that journal deals with the religious question, says:—

"He gives us many details of the insults which the French Government and the municipality of Paris offer to religion, and he writes with an indignation that would be quite warranted if the religion which the French insult were a religion which thinking men could believe. But when, instead of the Christianity of the Gospel and the Creed, the French are presented with the follies of Vaticanism . . . . what can be expected?"

To this the *Guardian's* Paris correspondent rejoins as follows:—

"Mr. Foxley's letter would seem to infer that the insults which I have represented as being offered in so many ways and by so many authorities, Governmental, Parliamentary, and Municipal, to religion in this country are offered, not to religion, but to what he calls the 'prevailing superstition.'

"Let us see how this stands:—

"Your correspondent thinks that such insults are directed only against the 'follies of Vaticanism.'

"To tear down crosses (often under the expostulation of the surrounding population) from churches, hospitals, and schools—is this only to attack the 'follies of Vaticanism?'

"To turn out Sisters of Charity from hospitals in the teeth of protests from the highest medical authorities; to do this, as is being just now attempted at the Cochin Hospital for instance, even where, by the express condition of the founder, the establishment was to be placed under the charge of such Sisters—has this anything to do with attacking the 'follies of Vaticanism?'

"To turn the same Sisters and all Christian teachers whatever out of all State schools; to prohibit rigorously from the walls of such schools the exhibition of all texts of Scripture, all religious pictures, every religious emblem of every kind; to exclude, with the same rigour, the clergy of every denomination from the school itself, and often to make the hours of the school such as to render it as difficult as possible for the children to attend elsewhere for the purpose of catechising or for religious instruction; to suppress army and navy and even hospital chaplains, and to make the access of even the overworked parochial clergy as difficult as possible to the patients, and even the dying, in the latter—is this to attack only the 'follies of Vaticanism?'

"I need not recapitulate here what I have so often stated before respecting the more general hostility displayed by the Parliamentary majority, with the connivance of the Government, against the Church of France, to cripple her both in her action and resources.

"Those above mentioned are a few, but only a few, of the instances which might be quoted. It would be absolutely impossible for me to cite, or to remember, a tithe part of the declarations, either of a public or private character, which evince, more or less openly, on the part of the ruling authorities and parties, their hostility to all religious teaching, and show their object to be to root out the very idea of 'religion' as a 'superstition' to be got rid of, a self-imposed burden and infatuation to be thrown off by the enlightenment of the present age. The extreme parties, of course, openly profess their desire to abolish the very name of God, to deny God and Christ alike. And if the more moderate section of the ruling parties are less open, it is only because they are more wary, and seek, as I have often pointed out, with cooler policy, to undermine slowly and safely, instead of attempting to destroy violently and dangerously. . . . . The convictions, such as I have often, and very freely perhaps, expressed on the above subject, are gradually and continually borne in upon one by a thousand accidents and incidents too minute and multitudinous to be noted. They are a part of the very atmosphere one breathes here; but it is necessary to be on the spot, and that for no short time, to feel their influence. . . . . It would be easy to show how general amongst the ruling party is the mingled feeling between hostility, indifference, and contempt with which everything which comes under the name of religion is viewed. It is impossible to draw any other conclusion than that the present Government of France is irreligious in the broadest sense of the term.

"What may be more difficult to decide is how far, and to what extent, the country goes with it! My own conviction is that the country is much more adverse to these views than either its present rulers or other people suppose. The worst of it is that almost all great movements in France have been the work of active and violent minorities. Even as regarded the old revolution itself, both De Tocqueville and Taine have shown us that almost all really beneficial reforms had been effected before revolution, properly so called, had begun; and that what followed was the work of an extreme and limited faction, against the wishes of the country. And so now, all these practices against religion may by no means correspond to the general feeling of the French people. But that they do not do so may probably never become apparent until it can be safely manifested under the ægis of some powerful protection. How, when, or where from, that is to come, I cannot pretend to say."

The remedy is obvious. A Catholic and Royalist Restoration should be at once attempted. If the Comte de Paris is not equal to the occasion, it may be that relief will be sought in another direction. If Prince Victor Bonaparte will dissociate himself, as he appears inclined to do, from the Atheistic and Revolutionary traditions of his father, Prince Jerome, and will let it be known that he will advocate the cause of Religion and Order, he may attract to himself that Conservative support which the heirs of "Philippe Egalité" have done so little to earn.

We are pleased to note that the *Semaine Religieuse*, the organ of the Paris Archbishopric, publishes a letter addressed to Mgr. Guibert by a "Minister of the Anglican Church," expressing sympathy with him under recent events:—

"I share the grief you must have felt," the writer says, "in the profanation of the Church of St. Geneviève by the French Government. Thanks to our Divine Master who gave you courage to protest and to condemn. What must have been the tribulations you have had to undergo during these last six years of persecution and blasphemy!"

LIBERTY AND PROPERTY DEFENCE LEAGUE.

On Wednesday, at the annual meeting of this body, originated "for resisting over-legislation, for maintaining freedom of contract, and for advocating individualism as opposed to socialism, entirely irre-

spective of party politics," the Earl of Pembroke presided. Among those present were the Earl of Wemyss, the Duke of Somerset, Lord Brabourne, the Earl of Ashburnham, Earl Fortescue, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Sir E. Beckett, Sir E. Watkin, M.P., Mr. C. S. Read, M.P., Mr. Pell, M.P., Lord Chetwynd, Sir J. Hay, M.P., Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Mr. W. H. Mallock, and Professor Bonamy Price. The annual report stated that the rate of the League's progress during the third year of its existence has greatly exceeeded that of either of the two preceding years. The widespread interest aroused by the movement represented by the League against the modern tendency to over-legislation and State socialism is shown by the daily inquiries for its prospectuses and publications from all parts of the country, and from America, the Continent, and the colonies. The number of bodies now in federation with the League is fifty-seven, having doubled within the last year. Steps are being taken to develop still further the Parliamentary co-operation of the bodies federated with the League in collective resistance to the measures of over-legislation by which they are in turn severally threatened. An apt occasion for insisting on this principle has arisen in connection with the Corporate Property Security Bill, introduced this session, of which advantage has been taken by the League. Its success in combining opposition to this Bill may be measured by the virulence with which the League and its utterances have been attacked in various quarters. Taking together the number of those who have joined individually and of those who have joined through the federation of their several societies, the League now comprises close upon 400,000 members of all shades of political opinions. Arrangements are being made with the Australian branch, under the title of the Victorian Liberty and Property Defence League, for the republication in that colony of the League pamphlets. From a report recently received from the secretary there, the need of such a movement against mischievous over-legislation seems as urgent at the Antipodes as here.

The CHAIRMAN in his address said that among the causes which had produced the change of opinion which brought the League into existence the principal was, in the first place, a natural reaction from the public opinion of the last generation. The second and the chief cause was the transfer of political power to the hands of large masses of people, whose necessary inexperience in politics and whose conditions of life rendered them peculiarly liable to be tempted to try to better their position by the apparently short and easy process of legislation. The change itself was indisputable. Thirty years ago such a proposition as that of State help was a pernicious delusion, hampering, expensive, demoralising, and unjust. Such propositions as that it was better both for the national character and national wealth that Governments should leave men alone to take care of themselves rather than they should be interfered with, such maxims as that of security of property and freedom of commercial enterprise, were the keystones of national prosperity—such propositions as these had become dogmas which hardly any politician who aspired to be considered enlightened dared dispute. But now there was scarcely a measure introduced into Parliament which did not set one or more of these principles at defiance. Look, for example, at the discussion which was going on about the refusal of the House of Lords to alter the law which made the receipt of medical relief a disqualification for the exercise of the franchise. He was aware that there were two sides to the question, but the significant thing to notice was the tone and the way in which this question had been treated. So far as he knew not a single statesman, either on the Liberal or the Conservative side, had thought it worth while to impress on the people or the Legislature the danger of encouraging pauperism. Hardly any one had cared to remind the people that it was not right for a man to get relief from the rates unless he was driven to do so by sheer necessity. Socialism may be incapable of full logical development, but it can go, and has even gone, far enough in the direction of injuring the national character and the national wealth of the country; and he desired to impress specially upon them the special and peculiar danger to England in this particular matter. Our commerce extended to every quarter of the globe; we had a huge and dense population, which was still growing. This vast multitude of people subsisted on a trade which had its roots and its branches in every part of the world. Freedom of commercial enterprise, lightness of taxation, and security of property were the indispensable conditions on which the daily bread of the rank and file of the great industrial army depended. If they hampered the capitalist with unwise restrictions, if they taxed him in his competition with the foreigner, they at once sentenced this vast population to starvation and death. He would gladly see greater social equality in this country compatible with our civilisation, but he thought the starvation of the working classes was too great a price to pay for it. The Chairman called attention to Mr. Chamberlain's well-known "ransom" speech, delivered at the Eighty Club, pointing out that such doctrines as those preached by the right hon. gentleman in regard to the rights and duties of property were being preached every day by hundreds of thousands of men who were helping to form the opinion of the time. The only difference between them and Mr. Chamberlain was that the right hon. gentleman expressed his opinions in startling crudeness and clearness, while other persons continued to drape their ideas in seductive disguise. In all the measures now introduced into Parliament they must watch the case on behalf of liberty and self-help. They must fight for security of property and freedom of enterprise. They must keep a jealous eye on the growth of rates and taxes; they must busily diffuse sound political doctrine, and labour persistently and energetically to dispose of the false sophisms by which it was being constantly obscured.

The Earl of WEMYSS said their object was to resist State interference and State socialism; to resist, in short, the robbing of the rich to bribe and get the votes of the many.

Lord BRABOURNE said he would go further than this, and would say that every poor man who had laid by something for the future was directly interested in resisting principles which if adopted would strike a fundamental blow at the prosperity of the poorer classes.

Sir E. BECKETT drew attention to the general tendency among a certain class of persons to look upon railways and other public undertakings as monopolies, in regard to which there was nothing immoral or unjust in spoliating.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. H. R. Barker, Principal of Cotmandene Lodge, Dorking, to be Licensed Preacher Diocese of Winchester.

Rev. W. Barker, Rector of St. Marylebone, to be Prebendary of Finsbury, in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rev. P. B. Bartlett, to Curacy (Sole Charge) of Crondall, Farnham.

Rev. M. C. Baynes, Curate of St. Mark's, Reigate, to be Incumbent of St. Luke's, Reigate. Patron, the Bishop of Rochester.

Rev. A. J. Blencowe, Vicar of Witton, to be Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral.

Rev. H. Brierley, to Vicarage of Upper Bullinghope. Patron, the Bishop of Hereford.

Rev. A. East, to Vicarage of Southleigh, Oxon. Patron, the Bishop of Oxford.

Rev. R. Eyton, Sub-Almoner to the Queen and Rector of Holy Trinity, Chelsea, to be Prebendary of Islington, in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rev. J. Felix, Curate of Llansantffraid-glan-Conway, to Vicarage of Cilcain, Flintshire. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. A. Field, Vicar of Longhirst, to Vicarage of South Charlton. Patron, the Duke of Northumberland.

Rev. F. A. Glover, Rector of Withern, to Rural Deanery of Calcewaith No. 1.

Rev. R. W. Gordon, of Nottage Court, Bridgend, General Licence to Officiate in the Diocese of Llandaff.

Rev. J. Gregory, formerly Vicar of St. Mary's, Far Cotton, Northampton, to Curacy of St. Dionis, Fulham.

Rev. A. Hall, Senior Curate of the Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, to Incumbency of St. George's, Mossley.

Rev. Canon F. Harvey, to Vicarage of Probus. Patron, the Bishop of Truro.

Rev. C. R. H. Hill, to Rectory of Frome St. Quinton-cum-Evershot. Patron, the Earl of Ilchester.

Rev. B. A. Galland, Rector of South Thoresby, to be also (by dispensation) Perpetual Curate of Haugh, Lincolnshire. Patron, Mr. Charles Horsfall Bill.

Rev. R. Linklater, Curate-in-Charge of Winchester College Mission Church of St. Agatha, Portsea, to Vicarage of Holy Trinity, Stroud-green, Hornsey.

Rev. A. M. Norman, Rector of Burnmoor, Durham, to be Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral.

Rev. A. S. Percival, to be Licensed Preacher Diocese of Southwell.

Rev. H. C. Phelps, Vicar of St. James's, Ashted, Birmingham, to Rectory of Ufton, near Leamington. Patron, the Bishop of Worcester.

Rev. J. Wild, Vicar of Tetney, to Rural Deanery of Grimsby No. 2.

Rev. C. Yeld, to be Licensed Preacher Diocese of Southwell.

Rev. O. G. Young, Curate of Addingham, to Rectory of Hopton, Suffolk. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.—Revs. T. Elland, to Minchinhampton: C. Leslie Balfour, to Lydney-with-Aylburton; J. H. Zenthwaite, to Bourton-on-the-Hill with Moreton-in-the-Marsh.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.—Revs. William Christophers, to Llantrissant; James Howell Bevan Powell, to Llanfrechfa.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.—Revs. John Brand, B.A., to Cossall; James Consterdine, M.A., to St. John's, Ashburne; Joseph Bernard Smith, B.A., to Whitwell.

OBITUARY.

April 12, at the Rectory, Simonstown, Cape, the Rev. Henry W. M. Wilshire.

June 16, at St. George's-road, Hastings, the Rev. Stephen Ralph Spicer, M.A., Oxon, aged 79.

June 19, the Rev. C. C. Turner, Rector of Wear Gifford, near Bideford.

June 20, at The Elms, Alphington, near Exeter, the Rev. Henry Lovelace Houlditch, formerly Vicar of Holcombe Burnell.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Bishop of Lincoln has reopened the ancient parish church at Somerby, near Brigg, after restoration from plans by Mr. M. Townsend, of Peterborough. This is the first reopening ceremony conducted by the Bishop since his elevation to the see.

The Bishop of London has conferred the Prebendal Stall of Finsbury in St. Paul's Cathedral on the Rev. William Barker, Chaplain to the Queen, and rector of Marylebone, rendered vacant by the promotion of the Rev. E. Capel Cure to a canonry of Windsor.

On Wednesday, the first anniversary of Bishop Anson's consecration, at a special service held in the north-west chapel of St. Paul's Cathedral, an offering of £1,500 was anonymously made to help forward the scheme of St. John's Collegiate Farm, which the Bishop is now initiating.

The Dowager Lady Henniker has presented to the church of Great Thornham a painted window, from the studio of Mr. Taylor, of Berners-street, in memory of her husband, the fourth Lord, who died on Easter Eve, 1870. The subject of the window appropriately illustrates the "Eve of the Resurrection."

The first anniversary of the establishment of the Bristol Bishopric Endowment Fund was celebrated in Bristol by holding a public luncheon at the Merchant Venturers' Hall, when it was mentioned that a sufficient sum had been subscribed to produce £2,500 yearly, but that a further sum of £46,000 was needed before they could proceed with the Episcopal Act. The Venerable Archdeacon of Bristol, Canon Norris, said that a munificent offer had been made by a gentleman of £10,000, conditionally on £20,000 being raised within the next two years.

The Empress of Germany has graciously accepted a copy of the Revised Bible from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It was presented through the Resident English Chaplain, the Rev. Archibald White, and bears the following inscription:—"This copy of the first issue of the Revised English Version of the Holy Bible was presented to the Empress of Germany by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, A.D. MDCCCLXXXV."

On Tuesday there was an early celebration in the choir of St. Paul's for the Diocesan Association of Lay-helpers, and an address was delivered by the Rev. John Storrs, vicar of St. Peter's, Eaton-square. He urged his hearers to cultivate positive convictions of truth. One danger of the Church of England, he thought, was over-reserve; but God forbid that they should break out into the extravagances indulged in by some. In the evening a special service took place in the nave of Westminster Abbey, when the Bishop of London preached from 1 Cor. xii. 3-6.

The Bishop of London has conferred the prebendal stall of Islington in St. Paul's Cathedral on the Rev. Robert Eyton, sub-almoner to the Queen, and rector of Holy Trinity, Chelsea. The stall became vacant by the promotion of the Rev. Dr. Gifford to the Archdeaconry of London and the Canonry thereto attached. There are still two stalls vacant, viz., Holborn and Brownswood, the former caused by the translation of Dr. Butler to the Deanery of Gloucester, and the latter by the death of the Rev. Dr. Currey, master of Charterhouse.

On Wednesday evening next, July 1, the twenty-eighth anniversary of the A.P.U.C. will be observed at All Saints', Lambeth, when solemn Gregorian evensong will be sung by an augmented choir, followed by a special sermon and procession. We are asked to state that members of the various reunion societies will be welcome, and that the subject of the sermon will be "The Cure for National Dry-rot."

The annual general meeting of the Catholic Union of Great Britain was held on Wednesday in Willis's Rooms. In the absence of the President (the Duke of Norfolk), the chair was occupied by the Vice-President (the Marquis of Ripon). There was a good attendance of members. The annual report, which gave a satisfactory account of the operations of the Union during the past year, having been taken as read, a discussion ensued, in which the Very Rev. W. Lockhart, Major Prenderville, Mr. E. Ryley, the Bishop of Emmaus, Lord Edmund Talbot, Sir Charles Clifford, Colonel Lenox Prendergast, and Mr. St. George Mivart took part. The report was then unanimously adopted.

Trinity College, Cambridge, has again suffered a severe loss by the death of another distinguished resident member, the Rev. Edward William Blore, M.A., Senior Fellow and Vice-Master of the College, which occurred on Wednesday at Trinity College, after a short illness. Mr. Blore was well known to several generations of undergraduates as one of the most popular tutors of Trinity. He graduated in 1851 as last in the Wranglers and fifth in the Classical Tripos, being a contemporary of the Bishop of Durham and Sir William Harcourt. For many years he has taken a prominent part in the work of the University, but within the last few months had resigned all his appointments. His funeral service will take place in Trinity College Chapel at two o'clock on Saturday, and friends of the deceased are requested to meet at the College hall a quarter-of-an-hour before that time. Mr. Blore's death makes the third vacancy this year by death among the resident Fellows, the others being Professor Munro and Mr. Hotham.

The Bishop of Dover (Dr. Parry, Archdeacon of Canterbury) attended on Thursday, with a commission from the Primate, accompanied by Mr. John Hassard, the Archbishop's principal registrar, and reconsecrated the enlarged church, and rededicated it as Christ Church, Folkestone. It being the summer season in Folkestone, there was a large congration. A new chancel, south transept, organ chamber, and vestry have been added, at a cost of £5,000, from designs by Mr. Arthur Rowland Barker. The Rev. Flavel Smith Cook, D.D., of Trinity College, Dublin, minister of the Lock Hospital, Paddington, preached the sermon. The Rev. Claude Bosanquet, M.A., has been vicar of Christ Church since 1873, and has carried on most useful work in Folkestone. The Rev. Canon Puckle, M.A., rector of Dover (the rural dean of the district) read the Petition for Consecration, and the registrar the Sentence of Consecration by the Bishop of Dover's desire. The Rev. M. Woodward, M.A., vicar of the old church at Folkestone, and all the neighbouring clergy attended. Henceforth the church will have a full surpliced choir. A handsome new organ is provided. After a public luncheon the Bishop of Dover and all assembled repaired to the old parish church to see the coffin and bones of the Saxon Princess who founded "the Priory of Folkestone," just discovered in the wall of the chancel of the old parish church.

The new peal of bells and new clock and chimes, which have been provided for the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, at a cost of about £1,350, were formally opened on Thursday. The peal consists of ten bells, and is generally admitted to be the finest in the West of England. Twenty-one tunes are played by the chimes. Four of the bells have been provided by the liberality of Mr. John Marshall, of Belmont, and one each by Mr. C. Allsopp, M.P., and Mr. Wilfred Marshall. The proceedings commenced with choral service, at which the Mayor and Corporation were present, the sermon being preached by Lord Arthur Hervey, Bishop of Bath and Wells. At half-past one'clock the bells were set in motion by Mrs. C. Allsopp, and immediately afterwards the carillon was started by Mrs. W. Marshall.

Yesterday week the Bishop of London consecrated the new church of St. Dionis, Parson's-green, Fulham. The edifice, which is in the Perpendicular Gothic style of architecture, is built of red brick, with Bath-stone dressings, and accommodation is provided for about 800 persons. The funds, to the amount of £7,000, for the erection of the new church, have been derived from part of the money obtained for the site of the old church of St. Dionis Backchurch, which formerly stood in Lime-street, City. There was a large attendance at the consecration service, and amongst the officiating clergy were the Rev. F. H. Fisher (vicar of Fulham and rural dean), the Rev. J. S. Sinclair (vicar-designate of St. Dionis), and the Rev. J. Gregory (the curate). The Bishop of London preached the sermon.

The 20th annual meeting of the members and friends of the Waterside Church Mission was held on Thursday at the rooms of the Royal Society, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, under the presidency of Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, the object of the institution being to afford religious instruction to seamen, fishermen, and emigrants. The annual report showed that the work had made steady progress during the year in all parts of the world, and a large number of grants had been made to foreign stations. An important feature of the work was the proposal to erect a church and hospital at Port Said, and the land upon which the buildings are to be erected has been secured, and the work would have been commenced but for the proposal to erect a national hospital to perpetuate the memory of General Gordon. It was hoped that this would be carried out, as General Gordon had been a prominent supporter of the mission. The total receipts amounted to £4,740 3s. 4d., and the expenditure to £3,000. The report was adopted.

At a Court of Assistants of the Sons of the Clergy, held on Saturday last at the Corporation House, Bloomsbury-place, Earl Powis, vice-president in the chair, there being also present Mr. Allcroft, Alderman Stone, and Rev. Sir E. G. Moon, Bart. (treasurers), Earl Beauchamp, Archdeacon Hessey, Rev. Dr. Sparrow Simpson, and Prebendary Stock, and Messrs. C. J. Barker, Frederick Calvert, Q.C., John F. France, John Hanby, William Bayne Ranken, and John G. Talbot, M.P., the Midsummer benefactions, mainly for poor clergymen with large families, were distributed, the applications presented by Mr. Paget Bowman, the registrar, having been previously carefully considered by a Committee of the Court. There were 118 petitions to be dealt with, besides 32 for assistance in the education of children, and grants were made amounting in all to £2,215. Of the 118 applicants 36 had insured their lives, and the governors were glad, so far as they could, to encourage their efforts at providence by making grants towards the payment of the premium, though in many cases it is obviously impossible for the clergy to provide for the future out of their scanty incomes.

The Committee appointed for the purpose of restoring the ancient see of Bristol have just issued their first report. The movement originated with the Commission appointed in 1881 by the present Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol to inquire into the spiritual necessities of the populous parishes of Bristol. In the course of the inquiry the Commissioners became convinced that Bristol needed a Bishop of its own. In October, 1883, the Mayor of Britol wrote to Mr. Gladstone, reminding him that, since the union of the two sees in 1836, the population of Bristol had doubled, and was then near a quarter of a million, and urging the restoration of the ancient Bishopric. A Bill was in consequence introduced into Parliament to provide for the separation of the sees of Gloucester and Bristol, and the constitution of a separate Bishopric of Bristol. This Bill passed on August 14 last year. The diocese is to comprise the three deaneries of North Wilts and the two deaneries of Bristol. The Act is to have effect, according to the provisions of Sir Richard Cross's Act of 1878, so soon as the Ecclesiastical Commissioners can certify to Her Majesty that an endowment of at least £2,500 a year has been provided to meet the £500 a year provided by the see of Gloucester, and that a suitable residence has been secured. For this annual income a sum of over £66,000 is required, of which more than £26,000 has already been subscribed, leaving £40,000 still to be provided, as well as a residence. The Committee are now able to announce a promise of £10,000 conditional on double that sum being raised to meet it in the course of two years. The honorary secretaries of the fund are Dr. Norris, Archdeacon of Bristol) and Captain Strachan Bridges. In the report the Committee express themselves as confident that the sum required will be forthcoming.

Dr. F. G. Lee, writing to a contemporary, asks the following pertinent questions with regard to the so-called "Church Army":—

"1. Is the foundation of the 'Church Army' distinctively Christian and Church of England? 2. Is baptism a fundamental condition of membership? 3. Are the so-called 'lay preachers,' 'captains,' or 'colonels' in any way educated and trained for their responsible work? If so, where, and by whom? And on what theological basis? 4. Do they receive ordination of any sort or kind, or setting apart by any due authority, or do they 'set themselves apart,' when and as they please, and where they please, for their work? 5. Do they hold any formal licence or written authority from any of the Bishops of the Church of England to preach and conduct services? 6. Is sudden and sensible conversion one of the dogmas they preach—if so, by whose or by what authority do they preach it? Surely, when a new organisation—somewhat unprecedented in its policy and a little odd and unconventional in its practice—comes forward for public support it cannot be out of place that polite and proper inquiry be made concerning its foundations, purpose, and scope."

THE COURT.

Divine service was performed in the presence of the Queen, Princess Beatrice, the Princess of Leiningen, and several members of Her Majesty's household in the Royal Mausoleum at Frogmore, by the Very Rev. Randall Davidson, Dean of Windsor, who afterwards officiated in the private chapel at the Castle at twelve o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presided on Thursday at Marlborough House at a meeting of the Governors of Wellington College. The other governors present were:—Colonel Talbot (vice-president), his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Royal Highness Prince Christian, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Morley, Viscount Eversley, Viscount Cranbrook, Lord Napier of Magdala, Mr. S. H. Walpole, Sir George Russell, Bart., Sir Edmund Whitmore, Mr. Walter, M.P., and the Rev. Dr. Harper. Mr. J. F. Chance (secretary) was in attendance.

The Rugby School speeches and distribution of prizes took place on Saturday afternoon in the Town-hall, in the presence of a large audience. Amongst those present were Lord Leigh, Lord Norton, Sir Ralph Lingen, Sir James Ferguson, Sir Lovelace Stamer, Sir Reginald and Lady Hanson, Sir Henry Edwardes, Mr. Muntz, M.P., and Mr. Tom Hughes, Q.C. The Rev. Dr. Jex Blake presided.

The Princess of Wales, who was accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and the three Princesses, opened on Wednesday a bazaar at the Cannon-street Hotel in aid of the funds of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children in the Hackney-road.

Under the presidency of Sir G. A. Macfarren, a meeting which had been convened by the Royal Academy of Music was held on Saturday at St. James's Hall, when on the motion of Mr. Santley, supported by Mr. A. J. Ellis, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, and Dr. Stainer, it was agreed that it was desirable to fix a standard for musical pitch throughout the United Kingdom which would be in accord with that of other countries. It was stated that the Belgian Government had adopted the French normal diapason, and this was, after some discussion, adopted by the meeting.

Captain Codrington, who has been selected for the post of Junior Naval Lord of the Admiralty, will be succeeded as Superintendent of Sheerness Dockyard by Captain Barnardiston.

By an explosion which occurred at the Burnley pit, Apedale, North Staffordshire, on Saturday morning, nine miners have lost their lives. As the result of great labour, carried on at great risk, an exploring party brought up the shaft six of the bodies.

A bazaar in aid of the fund for the repair of the parish church of Spitalfields was opened in the parish schools, Brick-lane, on Tuesday, by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The most remarkable feature was the exhibition of Spitalfields industries. Silk weavers and gold-leaf beaters were to be seen at work. There were also daily organ recitals and promenade concerts. The bazaar remained open for three days.

The Lord Mayor presided on Tuesday night at the annual festival dinner of the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool-road, Islington, which was held at Willis's Rooms. The subscriptions amounted to £2,516 9s.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and their family held a picnic on Virginia Water on Saturday. The Queen's State barge, with its high stern crowned by the Royal arms, was moored opposite the Cottage, and near at hand was a small blue-painted cutter, bearing the Prince of Wales's crest on her bows. Her mainsail was hoisted in readiness for a cruise upon the lake, and the Union Jack was flying at the mast-head. The weather had now become somewhat threatening, but tempted by a burst of sunshine the Princess of Wales, Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, embarked, with the ladies and gentlemen of the suite, in the boats which had been provided, and rowed along the lake towards the Wheatsheaf. The Princess and her companions were followed by the Prince of Wales, who, entering the yacht, took the helm. The boat scudded away smartly before a freshening north-westerly till it reached the far end of the lake, from which the other craft were already returning, when its occupants were caught in a storm of rain. The boat was accordingly put about, and in the face of the baffling head winds made slow progress across the lake. Prince George, accompanied by two other gentlemen, rowed out to tow in the yacht, but the Prince of Wales declined this assistance, and similar help proffered by one of the watermen was also refused. The Prince of Wales, taking advantage of a shift in the wind, sailed up to the Cottage landing-place about eight o'clock, the cruise on Virginia Water having occupied about an hour and a half.

The Prince of Wales attended a meeting held at the Mansion House in support of the Beaumont Trust Scheme for providing opportunities for rational amusement for the population of East London. The trustees have now secured nearly £40,000 of the £100,000 needed. The Lord Mayor presided, and the Prince of Wales moved the first resolution approving of the scheme, and urging the trustees to complete the purchase of the land and commence building. The Archbishop of Canterbury seconded the resolution, which was adopted. The Prince gave £100 to the fund.

The Princess Louise, who was accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, on Tuesday laid the foundation-stone of the new wing for out-patients and nurses at the Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, Chelsea. Purses were afterwards presented to the Princess for the building fund. Earl and Countess Cadogan, Lord and Lady Kensington, Lord Crewe, and a large company were present.

It is announced that the first act of the new Home Secretary has been to discontinue the employment of the fifty special detectives of the Royal Irish Constabulary whom Sir William Harcourt kept in London. The first twenty-five of them leave for Ireland on Tuesday next, and the remainder on the following Monday.

Tenders for Treasury Bills to the amount of £1,195,000 will be received at the Bank of England on July 1, at one o'clock. The bills will be dated July 7, and will be payable at three or six months after date, at the option of the persons tendering.

Mr. H. R. Goodwin, of the North Manchester Bicycle Club, has just completed the most remarkable journey yet accomplished on the bicycle. Leaving Land's End on June 1, he journeyed to John o' Groat's, having reached which point in seven days and a-half he at once turned southward, and again arrived at Land's End on the 16th, the double journey of about 1,750 miles, or from one extremity of England to the other, having occupied less than sixteen days. From Land's End he rode to London, which was reached on the 19th, the rider having thus completed a journey of 2,050 miles in exactly nineteen days, or an average of 108 miles per day. Mr. Goodwin rode a 40in. "Facile" Safety bicycle, and he arrived in London fresh and well, and it is worthy of notice that he is a strict teetotaller, and underwent the great strain of such a journey without any help from stimulants.

Iddesleigh, which is about to furnish an earl's title, has by some been supposed to be a corruption of Edith's Leigh—possibly the pasture-land of the Lady Eadgyth, daughter of Godwine and consort of the Confessor. Early in the fourteenth century Iddesleigh belonged to Sir John Sully (or Silly) "a Man much renowned in the Wars of the Holy Land against the Saracens, where he remained many Years; and in the End, wounded, returned to this country; to whom, at his home-coming, his Officers brought Store of Coin; which, laying on his Cloak, that was Cloth of Gold, he said, That once he would tumble in Gold and Silver." Which right merry jest may be found in a "Chronographical Description" of the county of Devon, "collected by the Travail of Tristram Risdon, of Winscot, Gent., for the Love of his Country and Countrymen in that Province," and finished in the year 1630. With regard to Sir Stafford Northcote's second title, Newton St. Cyres, which was formerly also written St. Sires, has been thought to commemorate a Prelate of the name of Sigeric, or Siric, who became Archbishop of Canterbury in 990. His Grace made a journey to Rome; where, says Dean Hook, "he lunched with the Pope," and "did" the city in regular English fashion. "The energy of the Archbishop, though he was advanced in years, was considerable; for we are told that he visited more than twenty churches in two days." If Sir Stafford is to exchange his old baronetcy for a new peerage, he will at least have the satisfaction of bearing titles which take us back to very early times in English history.

Saturday was the forty-eighth anniversary of the Queen's accession, Her Majesty having succeeded to the Throne on the 20th of June, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William IV. The Queen has, therefore, entered upon the forty-ninth year of her reign, a period which has been exceeded by three only of the Sovereigns of England, namely, Henry III., Edward III., and George III., who reigned fifty-six, fifty, and sixty years respectively. From an early hour on Saturday morning, and at intervals during the day, the bells of several of the West-end churches rang out merry peals. The drum-major doing duty with the detachment of the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards, which mounted the "Queen's Guard" and the other public duties in London for the day, wore his state uniform in honour of the occasion, and the band of the regiment played a selection of music in the courtyard of St. James's Palace during the ceremony of mounting and changing the guard. The subaltern on duty carried the Queen's colours from Wellington Barracks to the guard-house at St. James's, in place of the regimental colours usually taken; and the officer of the 1st Battalion of Scots Guards who was relieved from duty afterwards conveyed the colours to Chelsea Barracks. The Admiralty flag was hoisted on the top of the offices at Whitehall, and flags were also hoisted on several other public and private buildings. The usual ceremonies were also observed at Windsor and the different garrison towns.

Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., headed a deputation which waited on the School Board for London on Thursday. They came from the representative managers of Board Schools, and presented a memorial having reference to the nomination of managers, the nomination of head teachers, and the extended use of playgrounds. Mr. Buxton urged on the Board the necessity and advantage of the playgrounds, which consisted of about eighty acres, being fully and freely used after school hours, on Saturdays, and during the holidays. The memorial was referred to the School Management and Works Committees. The revised code of regulations for the guidance of managers and teachers was considered. One article which was amended and agreed to referred to corporal punishment, and made the head teachers responsible for every such punishment, and cautioning them never to strike a child on any part of the head with the hand or any instrument. It was reported that the competition in drill for the challenge banner given by the Society of Arts would take place in Lambeth Palace grounds on the 11th of next month, and that Lord Brabazon would act as judge.

The fifty-eighth anniversary of the Infant Orphan Asylum was celebrated on Thursday at Wanstead. Lord Brooke, M.P., distributed the prizes, and after the children had given evidence of their various accomplishments a *déjeûner* was held, at which subscriptions to the amount of over £1,218 were announced.

The anniversary festival dinner in aid of the Metropolitan Free Hospital was held on Wednesday night at Willis's Rooms, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild presiding. The company present included Cardinal Manning, the Consul-General of Russia, M. Weletsky, Lieutenant-Colonel Defries, the Rev. Mr. Goldstein, Mr. H. Defries, and Mr. Hyde Clarke. The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to the Metropolitan Free Hospital," said that the hospital, though not one of the largest in the metropolis, was one which was entitled to appeal on many grounds to the support of the public. The Metropolitan Free Hospital, as its name indicates, was open to every sufferer without distinction of any kind. Increased population has necessarily caused increased amount of sickness in the metropolis, and consequently an augmented demand upon the resources of the hospital, which had necessitated the expansion of its premises. Funds were urgently needed for the new building now in course of erection in Kingsland-road, to complete and furnish which £30,000 were necessary. Upwards of 47,000 persons had sought and obtained help from the hospital during the past year, and the chairman pointed out that the obscurity of the neighbourhood in which the hospital was situated prevented its wants from becoming known to the wealthy and fashionable portion of London. The secretary having announced subscriptions amounting to £3,365, Cardinal Manning proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and dwelt upon the numerous claims which this hospital in particular had upon the sympathy of the public, concluding his remarks with a graceful tribute of thanks to the chairman, whose active philanthropy was so well known to the metropolis. Numerous other toasts followed.

A "welcome home" to four members who had been engaged as special correspondents in the Soudan campaign was given on Saturday evening at the weekly dinner of the Savage Club; and among the honoured guests was Chief-Engineer Benbow, "the Man who Mended the Boiler." George Henty, a veteran of many campaigns, occupied the chair; and the journalists whose pen had described the thrilling incidents of the war in Egypt were Charles Williams, Melton Prior, Burleigh, and Phil Robinson. The chief interest of the evening, however, was created when Mr. Benbow rose to respond to the toast of his health, which had been proposed in expressive terms by Mr. Charles Williams, and received with acclamation by the large number of Savages present. After observing that he felt he had "much to be thankful for," in being permitted to return from Egypt, the chief-engineer of the *Saphir* proceeded to give a succinct yet vivid narrative of the memorable rescue of Sir Charles Wilson's party. He set forth the admirable coolness of Lord Charles Beresford in the supreme moment of danger, and described in simple language the incident of the Arab shot crushing through the boiler and scalding all the men, thus leaving the chief-engineer to face the sudden difficulty created. Despite the imminent peril of the position, everyone behaved in a manner worthy of British seamen, and it was not until four o'clock the next morning that an order from the captain so upset a native as to lead him to withdraw one of the dampers, thus sending a shower of sparks from the funnel, and bringing down upon the vessel the renewed fire of the enemy's guns. But long before this Mr. Benbow had "mended the boiler," and within ten minutes from the recommencement of the bombardment the *Saphir* steamed gallantly past the fort, sending one deadly shot right into the chief embrasure before proceeding to complete its mission of rescuing Sir C. Wilson's party from their dangerous position on the Nile. This little speech, so full of graphic touches, was received with the most earnest attention and prolonged applause. Several military officers who had distinguished themselves in the Soudan had accepted invitations, but were unable to be present—some having returned to duty in Egypt, and others being engaged at the Prince of Wales's party at Virginia Water, which, according to custom, wound up the Royal gathering at Ascot.

The trial of the libel action brought by Baron H. de Worms, M.P., against Mr. Edwin Hughes, arising out of matters connected with Sandwich and Greenwich Elections, terminated on Tuesday in a verdict for the plaintiff, with five hundred pounds damages. Mr. Baron Pollock gave judgment with costs, but with a stay of execution on the usual terms to enable an application for a new trial to be made.

The suit brought to set aside the wills and codicils of Mr. Warburton, formerly of the Alexandra Hotel, Hyde-park-corner, was brought to an end on Tuesday. Mr. Justice Butt, in the course of his summing up, pointed out that if the plaintiff, who was a nephew of the testator, succeeded in establishing the intestacy of his uncle, he would take his share of the estate, and the other relations would take their shares, instead of the bulk of it going to Messrs. Childs, Hobson, and Moss. The jury found that the testator was not of sound mind at the time of making the wills, and that one will and codicil were obtained by fraud. The Court thereupon pronounced for an intestacy.

A return has been issued from the Home Office containing a list of all schools with an endowment of more than £500 a year, the number of scholars in regular attendance, and the number of hours in the week devoted to the study of different subjects. The subjects are six in number—(1) classics and ancient history; (2) English and English history; (3) other modern languages and history; (4) natural science; (5) mathematics; and (6) geography. The list of schools called endowed is, of course, very long, and in the present paper they are ranged according to their geographical position. The numbers range from Eton, with 903, to Market Bosworth, with thirteen scholars. The book needs some study to get at its contents. In these days the modern side of a public school is much larger than it was formerly, and is encroaching more and more on the classical side. The consequence is that in many of these returns the answer given as to the number of hours a week assigned to a particular study is the result of an average. Natural science, English, geography, and modern languages are studied in one portion of the school; classics and mathematics in another. This renders it extremely difficult to obtain accurate knowledge of the facts in each case; and under some heads a wide margin is allowed. Thus at the Bedford Grammar School, which stands first in alphabetical order, there are 605 scholars; the time set down for classics is 2½ to 19½ hours; for English, 2½ to 17½ hours; modern languages, 1½ to 6¾ hours; natural science, 1½ to 8 hours; mathematics, 4½ to 11½ hours; and geography, three-quarters of an hour to an hour and a half. Under every head but the last there is a wide margin, and the same condition is to be found in most of the great schools. In the schools called modern there is more evenness. Thus in the Bedford Modern School all the 495 scholars appear to give five hours to Latin and four to English, while their studies in foreign languages vary, according to forms, only between eight and six hours; of natural science, between four and two; of mathematics, between six and seven; and geography between one and two hours. Some of the schools send in more elaborate reports, giving in detail the hours of each form. Thus at Wellington, the Upper School gives 16 hours to classics; the Middle and Lower School only 6½. It is surprising to see the Upper School contented with 5½ hours of mathematics, and 9½ is the utmost time allowed for that subject. Eton gives even less to mathematics; an average of four hours is set down for the 903 scholars, while the average for classics is 14 hours in school. This is stated to be only a very rough average, and it does not include preparation of lessons out of school. The general average given to geography seems to be one hour or two. The well-known Perse Grammar School at Cambridge is honourably distinguished in this respect, as the upper scholars give six hours to the subject. When it is found that they give 34 hours to the classics, seven to English, six to French, and twenty-seven to mathematics, it will not be considered surprising that absolutely no time is left for natural science of any sort. The most complete return is made by Tonbridge.

Those who would know more of the work that is being carried on at the Homes of Hope, Regent-square, Gray's-inn-road, which were established in 1860 for the restoration of the fallen, and the protection of friendless young women, will find in the last annual report of the Society an outline of the grand results that have been achieved. From this report we gather that since the Homes have been established, 2,589 have been admitted; of this number 856 belonged to the class of young mothers, who were thus saved from falling into deeper and continued sin; 283 were rescued from surroundings of great temptation, unfallen. It is gratifying to learn that in almost every case the young mothers and those admitted unfallen have turned out well, as have about 70 per cent of the others. Funds are urgently needed to enable the committee to extend their efforts, especially in connection with the rescue of young girls of tender years.

In removing the surface stonework in the north wall of the sanctuary of the parish church of Folkestone the workmen have come upon a reliquary of great antiquity and interest. It evidently contains the remains of St. Eauswide, or Eauswith, as she is now called, the patron saint of Folkestone, to whom the parish church is now dedicated. She was the granddaughter of Ethelbert, the first King of Kent, and the daughter of Eadbalde (A.D. 640), and (to quote Lambard) "she created a religious pryorie of women, not in the place where St. Peter's Church at Folkestone nowe standeth, but southe from thence, where the sea many yeares agoe hath swalowed and eaten it." The historian further adds,—"And yet, least you shoulde thinke the parishe church to be voyde of reverence, I must let you know of (Nova Legenda Angliæ) that before the sea had devoured all, S. Eauswide's reliques were translated thither." The reliquary is of lead, 15 inches in length by 12 inches in height and the same in width, and curiously marked with a zigzag pattern. Immediately above the place in the wall where it was inserted is a niche, where there has evidently been a shrine. The reliquary contains the skull and many bones in a fair state of preservation. It has evidently been opened and roughly treated, probably at the time of the Reformation, and then reinserted and built into the wall and so covered as to have left no external mark of its whereabouts. On the ancient seal of the Mayor of Folkestone St. Eauswith is represented in the attire of an abbess, crowned, with pastoral staff, and a fish hanging by her side. Several miracles are ascribed to her in ancient records, and it has been the custom for some years past to commemorate her on the 12th of September with special dedication festival services in her honour.

The Medical Battery Company's second "Ammoniaphone" concert was given in St. James's Hall, Regent-street, on the evening of June 12th, when, in response to invitations issued by Mr. C. B. Harness, Managing Director of the Medical Battery Company, Limited, the proprietors of Dr. Carter Moffat's clever invention, a large company was present. The most interesting feature of the concert was the fact that all the artistes were Ammoniaphonical votaries, who testified their appreciation of the benefits they have derived from Dr. Carter Moffat's remarkable invention by volunteering their services. Foremost amongst them was Mdme. Marie Roze, who, long since, bore testimony to the great value of the Ammoniaphone to vocalists, and who contributed two solos, rendered with matchless power and effect. Mdme. Roze was most effectively supported by Mdme. Lablache, Miss Kate Flinn, Mdlle. Desvignes, and by Signor Novara, Mr. Herbert Reeves, whose voice gains greatly in power, beauty, and resonance, and who makes no secret of his indebtedness to the Ammoniaphone in this respect, Signor Marini, Mr. Arthur Oswald, and Signor Carpi. The instrumentalists comprised Mr. John Thomas (Her Majesty's harpist), Signor Tito Mattei, Signor Papini, and M. Albert, while the band of the Scots Guards, under the direction of Mr. J. P. Clarke, performed several selections in their usual masterly manner. Altogether a more perfect or more enjoyable concert could hardly be imaginad, and very great praise is due to Mr. C. B. Harness for his enterprise in securing the attendance of such a galaxy of talent. Between the parts of the concert Dr. Carter Moffat delivered a brief address on his now celebrated invention, which has advanced very rapidly in public favour, and has won the approval of all classes and sections of the community, including amongst its votaries their Royal Highnesses the Princess of Wales and the Princess Louise, the Right Honourable W. E. Gladstone, and the *élite* of the medical, scientific, clerical, musical, and dramatic professions. It may be stated that so enormously has the sale of the Ammoniaphone increased that the Medical Battery Company has found it necessary to transfer their business to the spacious premises at 52, Oxford-street, lately occupied by the London and County Bank.

The three days' jubilee meeting of the Statistical Society began on Monday morning, when the foreign delegates were received by Earl and Countess Granville, at their house in Carlton House-terrace. On Wednesday a *conversazione* was held at the South Kensington Museum. The reception commenced at seven o'clock, and during the evening fifteen hundred guests were received, these including a large number of foreign visitors to the jubilee.

BIRTHS.

June 15, at Orsett Rectory, the wife of the Rev. R. T. WHITTINGTON, M.A., Rector of Orsett and Rural Dean, of a daughter.

June 16, at Hythe Vicarage, Hants, the wife of the Rev. H. COTTERILL EVANS, of a son.

June 19, the Vicarage, Braintree, the wife of the Rev. J. W. KENWORTHY, Vicar, of a daughter.

June 19, at 34, Hans-place, Lady MARY WOOD, of a son.

June 21, at Sedbergh Vicarage, the wife of the Rev. R. H. QUICK, of a son.

June 21, at the Rectory, Bredfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. C. R. WOOD, Rector of Bredfield, of a daughter.

June 21, at 6, College-road, Eastbourne, the wife of the Rev. HAMPDEN G. JAMESON, of a daughter.

June 21, at Cirencester, the wife of the Rev. G. L. PITT, of a daughter.

June 21, at St. Mary's Rectory, Colchester, the wife of the Rev. JOHN W. IRVINE, of a son, stillborn.

June 22, at 21, Finsbury-square, the wife of the Rev. J. W. PRATT, of a daughter.

June 22, at Little Aston Vicarage, the wife of the Rev. W. H. Seddon, of a son

June 22, at Crick Rectory, Rugby, the wife of the Rev. Dr. GRAY, of a daughter.

June 23, at Letton Rectory, Hereford, the wife of the Rev. RHYS BISHOP, of a son.

June 23, at 58, Cromwell-road, Lady AMABEL KERR, of a son, still born.

MARRIAGES.

June 2, at Naini Tal, East Indies, ARTHUR E. COMERFORD CASEY, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, son of the late George Casey, Esq., of Winterbourne, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, to EDITH ANNETTE, second daughter of the late General Sir THOMAS WILLSHIRE, Bart., G.C.B.

June 8, at St. George's Church, New York, ABDIEL WILLIAM, eldest son of the Rev. ABDIEL HANHAM, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Sittingbourne, Kent, to LEILA BEATRICE, third daughter of the Rev. Dr. ANGEL-SMITH, of Aldbrough House, Rector of Colden Parva, and Vicar of Aldbrough, Hull, late M. Canon and Rector of S. Peter with Holy Cross, Canterbury.

June 11, at St. Mark's, North Audley-street, JOSCELINE BAGOT, Grenadier Guards, to THEODOSIA, daughter of Sir JOHN and Lady LESLIE.

June 18, at All Saints', Margaret-street, W., FRANCIS AYLMER FROST, of Meadowsles, Mold, Flintshire, to EMMA LOUISA, second daughter of the late Rev. J. FULLER RUSSELL, B.C.L., F.S.A., formerly Rector of Greenhithe, Kent.

June 20, at St. John's, Boxmoor, the Rev. HARRY BRUNING CONSTANT, youngest son of the late THOMAS DELEVIGNE, of Chiswick, to ELLEN ISABELLA, only daughter of the late THOMAS LITTLE of Brooklands, Hemel Hempsted.

June 23, at Great Billing, Northamptonshire, the Rev. F. N. THICKNESSE, B.A., Lecturer of Bolton Parish Church, second son of Archdeacon Thicknesse, of Beech-hill, Lancashire, and Prebendal House, Peterborough, to MARY SIBYLLA, daughter of the Rev. J. WALKER, Rector of Great Billing, formerly Fellow and Vice-Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford.

DEATHS.

June 1, at Seguin, Texas, accidentally killed, SURTEES SWINBURNE, youngest son of the late Major Swinburne, of H.M.'s 32nd Regt., and only brother of J. C. Swinburne Hanham, J.P., of Manston House, Dorset, aged 22.

June 19, at 111, Eaton-square, at midnight, Lady JOSCELINE PERCY.

June 20, at Paris, THEODOSIA HAY MAUBOUSSIN, daughter of the late E. W. A. DRUMMOND HAY, Esq.

June 21, at the King's College, Taunton, AGNES JANE COLERIDGE, only daughter of the late Rev. HENRY THURSTON THOMSON, aged 41

June 22, at Holy Trinity Rectory, Windsor, after a lingering illness of intense suffering, OLIVE CECILY, third daughter of the Rev. ARTHUR ROBINS, in her 16th year.

June 22, at Court Hall, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon, ELLEN CAREW AGAR, widow of the late Rev. William Agar, Vicar of Kilcreddan and Garryvoe, county Cork, Ireland, and youngest daughter of the late Robert Hunt, Esq., of Court Hall, aged 73.

LATEST NEWS.

St. Petersburg, June 26.

The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg*, in an article to-day commenting upon the change of Ministry in England, observes that it cannot record the fact of Mr. Gladstone's withdrawal from power without an expression of respect and sympathy for the late Premier. Speaking of the new Cabinet, the semi-official journal says:—"Most of its members held office in the late Earl Beaconsfield's Administration. The Conservatives, however, appear to have the good sense to take into account the necessities of the situation. Lord Salisbury succeeds to a position already taken up by his predecessor, and the path to follow is, moreover, broadly marked by the natural movement of history. His Lordship has too great a feeling of responsibility, and knows Europe too well, not to mould his acts according to the prevailing needs of the time. The respective positions of peoples determine the relations between them. It is on these grounds that Russia, with respect to her own interests and from the point of view of a conciliatory policy, regards with calmness the accession of the new Ministry to power in England."

It is officially announced that the second Trans-Caspian railway battalion, the formation of which has now been completed, recently left for the Trans-Caspian territory.

Madrid, June 25.

During the last twelve hours fifteen cases of cholera and eight deaths have occurred in the town of Valencia. The information respecting the mortality in the province is incomplete. In the town of Toledo there have been five cases and one death, and in the province fifteen cases and seven deaths. One case and one death are reported in Madrid to-day.

Candia, June 25.

The Cretan Assembly has been dissolved. Savas Pasha, the new Governor, is daily winning the confidence of the population, and perfect tranquillity prevails throughout the island.

Alexandria, June 26.

Sir E. Baring is expected to start for England on leave on the 8th prox. During his absence Mr. Egerton, Secretary of the British Embassy at Constantinople, will take charge of the British diplomatic agency in Egypt.

A native paper states that the Sheikh El Senoussi has been arrested in Tunis and interned at Gabes.

Lord Wolseley has received a telegram from Lord Salisbury expressing deep sympathy with the views Lord Wolseley has expressed regarding the withdrawal of the British forces from the Soudan.

He adds that he is unable, for various reasons, to continue the Soudan expedition.

The state receptions held to-day by the Khedive, in celebration of the anniversary of his Highness's accession, was attended by the patriarchs of the different religious creeds, the Diplomatic body, the principal officials, and the European notabilities.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

On Wednesday the principal members of the late Liberal Government delivered up their seals of office to Her Majesty, and their successors subsequently attended at Windsor Castle to kiss hands on appointment. Lord Salisbury's Ministry is composed as follows:—

Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary.
Sir Stafford Northcote (Earl of Iddesleigh), First Lord of the Treasury.
Sir Hardinge Giffard (Lord Halsbury), Lord Chancellor.
Earl of Carnarvon, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.
Viscount Cranbrook, Lord President of the Council.
Earl of Harrowby, Lord Privy Seal.
Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Sir Richard Cross, Home Secretary.
Colonel F. A. Stanley, Colonial Secretary.
Mr. W. H. Smith, Secretary for War.
Lord Randolph Churchill, Secretary for India.
Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty.
Mr. Gibson, Lord Chancellor of Ireland.
Lord John Manners, Postmaster-General.
Duke of Richmond, President of the Board of Trade.
Mr. Edward Stanhope, Vice-President of the Council.

Outside the Cabinet the following posts have been filled, viz.:—

Mr. Arthur Balfour, President of the Local Government Board.
Mr. Chaplin, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.
Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Chief Secretary for Ireland.
Mr. Plunket, First Commissioner of Works.
Mr. Webster, Q.C., Attorney-General (?).
Mr. Gorst, Q.C., Solicitor-General (?).
Mr. J. H. A. Macdonald, Q.C., Lord Advocate.
Mr. J. P. Bannerman-Robertson, Solicitor-General for Scotland.
Mr. Holmes, Q.C., Attorney-General for Ireland.
Mr. Monroe, Q.C., Solicitor-General for Ireland.
Earl Beauchamp, Paymaster-General.
Sir Henry Holland, Financial Secretary to the Treasury.
Mr. Akers-Douglas, Political Secretary to the Treasury.
Mr. C. Dalrymple, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and Colonel Walrond, Junior Lords of the Treasury.
Mr. H. S. Northcote (Viscount St. Cyres), Under Secretary for the Home Department (?).
Mr. Robert Bourke, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs.
Earl Cadogan, Under Secretary for the Colonies.
Earl of Donoughmore, Under Secretary for War.
Lord Harris, Under Secretary for India.
Mr. Ritchie, Secretary of the Admiralty.
Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Civil Lord of the Admiralty.
Admiral Hood, Sir John Commerell, and Captain Codrington, Naval Lords of the Admiralty.
Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, Lord Steward.
Earl of Lathom, Lord Chamberlain.
Earl of Bradford, Master of the Horse.
Marquis of Waterford, Master of the Buckhounds.
Viscount Folkestone, Treasurer of Her Majesty's Household.
Lord Arthur Hill, Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household.
Viscount Lewisham, Vice-Chamberlain.
Duchess of Buccleuch, Mistress of the Robes.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of the following honours being conferred:—

Knighthoods of the Garter on the Marquis of Northampton and the Earl of Sefton.

A Marquisate on the Earl of Breadalbane.

An Earldom of the United Kingdom on the Earl of Fife.

Baronies of the United Kingdom on Viscount Powerscourt, Lord Henley, Sir Nathaniel de Rothschild, Sir Robert Collier, and Sir Arthur Hobhouse.

Baronetcies on Mr. Watts, R.A., Mr. Millais, R.A., and Mr. C. Tennant, M.P.

K.C.B.—Mr. A. K. Stephenson, C.B., Solicitor to the Treasury.

Knighthood.—Mr. Henry Edwards, M.P.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer the dignity of the Order of the Garter upon the Earl of Kimberley; and the honour of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath upon Viscount Eversley and Viscount Sherbrooke.

Sir Ralph Lingen, K.C.B., has, by permission of Her Majesty, been offered and has accepted a Peerage. He retires from the Secretaryship of the Treasury, and is succeeded by Sir Reginald E. Welby, K.C.B., Auditor of the Civil List.

Mr. Rowland Winn has accepted a Peerage, and will go to the Upper House as Baron St. Oswald, of Nostell, Yorkshire.

Mr. Thornhill, who has for some time acted as second Conservative Whip, is to receive a Baronetcy.

Her Majesty has been further pleased to direct that Sir Harry Verney, M.P., and Sir Arthur Otway, M.P., should be sworn of the Privy Council.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to confer the Companionship of the Bath upon Mr. E. W. Hamilton.

Mr. Villiers Lister, Assistant Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has been made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Baron de Worms, M.P., has been offered and has accepted the post of Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade. He has appointed Mr. W. D. Laurance as his private secretary.

The Marquis of Salisbury, as Prime Minister, has appointed Mr. Henry Manners and Mr. James Hozier to be his Private Secretaries.

The Marquis of Salisbury, as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has appointed the Hon. Eric Barrington, of the Foreign Office, to be his Private Secretary; and Mr. Arthur Hardinge, Third Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, to be Précis Writer.

The Secretary of State for Home Affairs has appointed Mr. Evelyn Ruggles-Brise to be his Private Secretary.

Sir Stafford Northcote has appointed as his Private Secretaries the Hon. Arthur de Saumarez and Mr. J. F. Daly.

Mr. M. P. F. Caulfield, Assistant Principal Clerk at the Admiralty, is appointed Private Secretary to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach at the Treasury.

The Duke of Richmond, President of the Board of Trade, has appointed as his Private Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively Mr. Algernon Robert Peel and Earl Cairns. Mr. Algernon Peel is the youngest son of Mr. Charles Lennox Peel, Clerk of the Privy Council.

Mr. A. W. Moore, and Mr. W. J. Maitland are respectively appointed Principal Private Secretary and Assistant Secretary to Lord Randolph Churchill, Secretary of State for India.

Colonel Stanley's Private Secretary at the Colonial Office is Mr. R. L. Antrobus, Mr. H. W. Just being Assistant Secretary.

Sir Henry Holland has appointed Mr. Spring Rice, of the Treasury, to be his Private Secretary.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff is to leave immediately for Egypt as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, with the rank of Privy Councillor.

It is understood that Captain Lord Walter Kerr will be appointed Private Secretary to Lord George Hamilton at the Admiralty.

Sir Stafford Northcote, who will shortly receive his patent of Peerage, has taken possession of 10, Downing-street, as First Lord of the Treasury. The adjoining house in Downing-street will be occupied by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between the Marquis le la Roche, of the Château de Rouvenay, Grenoble, and Francis Catherine Mary, second daughter of the late Mr. Henry Fielding, of Banthorpe, Yorkshire, and stepdaughter of Count de Bertholles.

Also between Captain Lyster-Smythe, assistant private secretary to his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, and Miss Agnes Litton, only child of Captain Richard Litton, and granddaughter of the late Sir Hugh Stewart, Bart.

Also between the Hon. Lincoln Edwin Stanhope, third son of the late Earl of Harrington, and brother of the present Peer, and Miss Hélène de Bravura, only daughter of the Countess de Galve by her first husband, M. de Bravura.

Also between Mr. Gordon Russell, eldest son of Lieutenant-General Lord Alexander Russell, commanding the troops in Canada, and Miss Commerell, eldest daughter of Vice-Admiral Sir Edmund Commerell, Commander-in-Chief of the N. American and and W. Indian Station.

Also between Miss Elizabeth Mary Scott-Moncrieff, youngest daughter of the late Robert Scott-Moncrieff, Esq., of Fossaway, Perthshire, and the Rev. James Robertson, minister of Whittinghame, East Lothian, and chaplain to the Lord High Commissioner to the Church of Scotland, the Earl of Aberdeen.

An aristocratic congregation met at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Thursday afternoon, to witness the marriage of Colonel Howard Kingscote, of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, eldest son of the late Mr. Henry Robert Kingscote, with Miss Drummond Wolff, only daughter of Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, M.P. The ceremony took place by special licence at two o'clock, long before which hour the church was crowded with the relatives and friends of the contracting couple, and among whom were Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Netherlands Minister and Countess de Bylandt, the Spanish Minister, the Marchioness of Salisbury and Lady Gwendolen Cecil, the Marquis of Hamilton, Viscount and Viscountess Gough and Hon. Nora Gough, Lady Wimborne and Lady Sarah Spencer Churchill, Lord and Lady Henry Gordon-Lennox, Lady Rawlinson, Hon. Mrs. W. Lowther and Miss Lowther, the Right Hon. Hugh Childers and Misses Childers (2), the Right Hon. H. Cecil Raikes and Mrs. and Miss Raikes, General Sir Francis Seymour, Sir Algernon and Lady Borthwick and Miss Borthwick, Sir Samuel and Lady Wilson, Sir Richard Temple, Mrs. Bischoffsheim, Miss Cavendish Bentinck, Miss Wollett, Miss Thornhill, Miss Bruce, Miss Mackenzie, and Miss Hoste. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Ralph Walpole as best man; and in attendance on the bride were nine bridesmaids. The bride arrived with her father at two o'clock. The bride's dress was an exceedingly handsome one. It consisted of train and bodice of ivory velours frisé, with petticoat of ivory satin covered with antique Brussels lace, the gift of Lady Drummond Wolff, tastefully caught up with sprays of natural orange blossoms, sent specially from Nice for the occasion. She wore a wreath of the same flowers and a Brussels lace veil fastened with three large diamond stars. Her train was borne by two pages, the Hon. F. Manners Sutton, her cousin, and Master William Seymour, who wore costumes entirely of white satin, with little cloaks, and diamond and pearl horseshoe pins, the bride's gift. The nine bridesmaids were attired in the costume of the Primrose League. They wore skirts of deep primrose-coloured satin, draped with crêpe of the same shade, caught up with primroses, the satin bodices being cut square, and having fronts and ruffles of crêpe; the sleeves were puffed at the elbow and shoulders. The badge of the League was fastened on the bodice, and they wore tulle veils, with wreaths of primroses in their hair. Each had a diamond and gold brooch, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a basket or a bouquet of yellow roses and primrose leaves. Lady Drummond Wolff, mother of the bride, wore a corsage and skirt of grey gaze de velours frisé in a new shade, mixed with Surah and richly trimmed with lead beaded lace. The Marchioness of Salisbury was attired in grey broché satin; Lady Henry Gordon Lennox in dark green velvet; Lady Wimborne, brown satin; Mrs. Howard Vincent, dark blue velvet. The Lord Bishop of Winchester performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. Canon Nisbet, and the Rev. Matthew Thomas, curate-in-charge of St. George's, Boscombe, Hants. The ceremony over, the wedding party reassembled at 4, Chesham-street, where Sir Drummond and Lady Wolff entertained nearly four hundred guests. Later in the afternoon the newly-wedded couple left to spend the honeymoon near Folkestone, the bride wearing a travelling dress of brown canvas and striped velvet, the pointed bodice made short and laced over a velvet blouse; shoulder cape of brown velvet, and velvet bonnet with gold aigrette.

A fashionable company assembled at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, on Wednesday morning, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Archie K. Loyd (cousin of the Hon. Lady Loyd-Lindsay) with Miss Henrietta Louisa Clutterbuck, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Edmund Clutterbuck, of Hardenhuish Park, Wilts. The wedding party met at the church soon after eleven o'clock, the bridegroom arriving early with his friend, Mr. Russell Griffiths, as best man. The bride's handsome dress consisted of corsage and train of rich white frisé velvet over a skirt of Duchesse satin, draped with fine old Honiton appliqué. The bodice was trimmed with orange blossoms, and a wreath of the same flowers in her hair was covered by a tulle veil, fastened with five diamond stars. Her other jewels included a diamond necklace, the gift of the Hon. Lady Loyd-Lindsay; a diamond and pearl bangle, given her by Mrs. David Ricardo; and a diamond and sapphire horseshoe bangle, the gift of Captain Spicer (1st Life Guards), both cousins of the bride. She carried a beautiful Brussels lace fan, presented to her by Lady Emily Fitzmaurice, and a large bouquet of white exotics. The bridesmaids were tastefully dressed in cream canvas, trimmed with wide flounces of real yak lace, and caught up with moiré ribbons, and wore Spanish hats of yak lace trimmed to match; each wore a gold brooch, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a basket of red and white roses. The Rev. Newton Spicer, rector of Wonston, Hants, uncle of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. L. H. Loyd, brother of the bridegroom. After the ceremony the bride and bridegroom proceeded to 8, Chesham-street, kindly lent to Mr. Clutterbuck for the wedding breakfast by Mrs. David Ricardo. Owing to a recent family bereavement, the party was confined to the nearest relatives of both families. In the course of the afternoon the newly wedded couple left for Lockinge House, Sir Robert and Lady Loyd Lindsay's seat in Berkshire, where they will pass the honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was of cream canvas, with trimmings of yak lace and moiré ribbons, and hat *en suite*.

The annual Royal Caledonian fancy dress ball, for the benefit of the Royal Caledonian Asylum and Royal Scottish Hospital, was held at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on Monday last. The ball was under the immediate patronage of Her Majesty, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the Royal Family, and the lady patronesses comprised a long list of the members of the leading noble and ancient Scottish families. Dancing commenced at eleven o'clock with the Highland Quadrille, arranged by Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale, and was danced by twenty couples. The gentlemen taking part in the quadrille wore Highland garb, and the ladies were in white dresses composed of tulle and satin, their tartan scarves being arranged in a variety of ways, and the badge of their respective clans being fastened about the dress and in the hair. The interest of the evening, however, centred in the two fancy quadrilles that followed. Lady Elcho's, in which those taking part were dressed in the style of the last century, was danced by twelve couples. The gentlemen were in fancy dress, and the ladies wore trains of white satin or brocade, opening over petticoats of white lace flounces, and powdered hair, in which large clusters of flowers were fastened. The Countess of Northesk's quadrille was also danced by twelve couples. The gentlemen all being officers in the Guards, were in their respective uniforms, and the ladies were quaintly dressed (after Sir Joshua Reynolds) in short white muslin gowns, made with a gathered flounce round the plain skirt, and bodices cut low in front with small fichus and elbow sleeves, edged with a narrow frill, and sashes of various colours, with bows or flowers matching in shade, worn on the bodice and in the hair, which was powdered. There were very few fancy dresses amongst the general company; but the rule that "no gentleman be admitted to the ball unless in Highland, full Court, fancy dress, or uniform" was strictly adhered to. The Duchess of Richmond was in crimson brocade, with diamond ornaments. The Duchess of Sutherland wore black brocaded velvet, the family badge being intermixed with a diamond coronet in her hair. The Duchess of Buccleuch's black dress was handsomely trimmed with gold brocade, and she wore magnificent diamonds. The Duchess of Buckingham looked well in pale yellow and white brocaded satin and splendid diamonds; the Duchess of Athole wore black; Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale, black satin, her hair being studded with diamonds; the Countess of Northesk, golden brown satin; Viscountess Stormont, black broché, trimmed with jet. After the three fancy quadrilles had been danced, seventy of the senior boys and girls of the Royal Caledonian Asylum, preceded by the Duke of Athole, and accompanied by Mr. Thomas Inglis (the secretary of the Asylum), the pipers (under the charge of Sergeant-Major Jas. Paton, late 79th Highlanders) and band under the direction of Mr. Albert Mansfield, late Royal Artillery), marched round the ballroom, the pipers playing "Highland Laddie" and the band "Bonnie Dundee." It was remarked that the children presented a very healthy and cheerful appearance.

The marriage of Mr. Hugh Owen and Viscountess Helmsley was solemnised at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, on the 6th inst. The wedding party—a very small one—assembled at the church at the early hour of nine o'clock. Mr. Owen was accompanied by Captain Owen, his brother, as best man, and the bride was attended by her children, the Hon. Mary Duncombe and Viscount Helmsley, and her nephew and nieces, Viscount Castlereagh, Lady Helen Vane Tempest, and the Misses Chaplin. The two youthful Viscounts, who were dressed in sailor costume, acted as pages. The bride, who was given away by her mother Theresa, Countess of Shrewsbury, wore a handsome dress of cream-coloured velvet over a petticoat of pale shrimp-pink satin, with a bonnet to match, and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley. Among the relatives and friends present on the occasion were the Marquis of Londonderry, Lady Gwendolin Chaplin, Lord Rendlesham and Hon. Miss Thellusson, Lord North and Hon. Miss North, Colonel North, M.P., Major Stirling, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Milnes, Mr. and Mr. Oswald, Mr. and Mrs. Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Roche, &c. The Rev. R. Egerton performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. J. Pitt. There was no wedding breakfast, as the newly-wedded couple left Theresa Countess of Shrewsbury's residence in Lowndes-square at ten o'clock, on their way to Paris.

The double marriages of Mr. Edward D. Hodgson, second son of Mr. Arthur Hodgson, C.M.G., of Clopton, Warwickshire, and Miss Constable, eldest daughter of the Rev. John Constable, of Marston Biggott, Frome; and of Mr. Erskine, of Venlaw, Peebles, Captain Royal Navy, A.D.C., and Miss M. E. Constable, fourth daughter of the Rev. John Constable, were solemnised at Marston Biggott on the 21st ult. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. Erskine and the Rev. Francis Hodgson, assisted by the Rev. W. Law and the Rev. Thomas Constable, at half-past eleven. The bridegrooms, with their best men (Mr. Edwards and Mr. Keyser), arrived at the church, and shortly afterwards the two brides, accompanied by their father, were met on entering the church by their five bridesmaids. The brides were dressed alike, in ivory-white brocaded satin, made with trains, the fronts being composed of the finest silk Maltese lace. They wore tulle veils with wreaths of orange blossoms, and carried bouquets. The five bridesmaids were attired in dresses of cream satin merveilleux, trimmed with lace, and large yellow sashes, with cream lace bonnets and yellow aigrettes. They each wore Trigonia shell and pearl brooches, and diamond star and crescent pins and carried beautiful posies of Maréchal Niel roses, the gifts of the bridegrooms. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants; the service was choral. Mr. and Mrs. Constable afterwards entertained at breakfast, at the rectory, about ninety relations and friends. Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hodgson and Captain and Mrs. Erskine started for their honeymoon. The brides' travelling dresses were of navy blue cashmere and silk, trimmed with gold braid, and hats to match. The wedding presents were numerous and very beautiful.

The eighth annual commemoration of the founding of Schorne College, Buckinghamshire, was held at Northmarston on Tuesday, June 23, the prizes being distributed by the Right Hon. Sir Harry Verney, Bart., M.P., and the sermon preached by the Rev. W. Miles Myres, M.A., vicar of Swanbourne, and rural dean of Mursley, in the diocese of Oxford. There was a large gathering of neighbours, parents, and friends, and the day was completed by a garden party in the vicarage grounds. "The health of the Warden" (Dr. James) was proposed by the Rev. Randolph Pigott, J.P., of Grendon Hall, Bucks, and Sir Harry Verney spoke of the great pleasure it afforded him to have so good a school not very far from his residence in the county. Miss Ashwell, of Maids-Moreton Manor House, promised an annual prize, and the occasion was altogether one of the brightest and most successful of a very successful series. The school is a Church school on the comprehensive basis of the Book of Common Prayer, without party bias, and has risen from a very small beginning to its present number in a few years.

The first meeting of the new Cabinet was held at noon yesterday at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury in Downing-street.

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